

19th September 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians

**Re: Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award**

I am writing to inform you that Ruislip High School is now starting to recruit Y9 students for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

As you may be aware the Duke of Edinburgh is a renowned scheme for young people widely recognised by colleges and employers. It is an opportunity for your child to gain unlimited skills outside of the classroom environment. It enables students to grow, gain a sense of self sufficiency, independence and teamwork skills. It is a real sense of adventure and an amazing opportunity.

The Bronze award is just the beginning as Ruislip High School also offers the Silver award in Year 10 and the Gold award in the Sixth form.

Here is some information about what prospective candidates will need to attain in order to fulfil their award:

**Volunteering:** Students have to volunteer for a charity or establishment for one hour a week for 3 months.

**Skill:** Students have to begin to learn a new skill, whether it be an instrument, a language or a hobby for one hour a week for 3 months.

**Physical:** Students have to keep fit to enable them to participate successfully on expeditions. This needs to be done once a week for 3 months.

One of these sections must then be done for a further 3 months.

All of these sections need to be signed off weekly by a witness or assessor and this cannot be done by a family member.

**Expeditions** are for one night and two days where students plan a route, navigate the route and camp overnight. Students have to be completely self-sufficient throughout the two days carrying all kit and food needed for their expedition. Students walk in groups of four to seven and are supervised throughout the day via check points and are accompanied at camp.

Training in Y9 will be compulsory; the training session will be held in school to ensure that students are prepared fully for expeditions. They will learn camp craft, food and nutrition, first aid, route planning, teamwork and navigation from qualified Mountain leaders.

The Duke of Edinburgh is a highly regarded and prestigious award, is great fun, provides unique opportunities to the students and involves a lot of hard work. With this in mind, I would like to invite you to a meeting to explain the award in more detail and for you to have an opportunity to ask any questions. The meeting will be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of September at 5.00pm in the main hall. During the meeting I will explain the sections of the award, what happens on the expeditions and how students can document their evidence on the Duke of Edinburgh



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website. Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh award will be dependent on a good attendance and behaviour record in school, this will also be explained at this meeting in greater detail.

If you have any more questions feel free to email the Ruislip High Duke of Edinburgh Team via the school office.

Please sign via google form [here](#) for confirmation of attendance.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Hunter".

Ms K Hunter  
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator