Backwell School
A National Teaching School

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Headteacher: Jon Nunes MA

May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award – Year 9

I am in the process of recruiting next year's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh cohort. Normally I would do this via an assembly to the whole of Year 9 but, unfortunately, that is not possible at the moment. As an alternative I have assigned a fully narrated power point to all Year 9 students via FROG, explaining what is involved and how they can sign up.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is nationally recognised and encourages the development of important skills such as communication, commitment, leadership and teamwork. These are all things which will help students push their personal boundaries have fun and develop new skills and enhance their applications when it comes to applying for college, university or jobs. Taking part in the award will also make a difference to other people's lives, helping the community, helping the young person to become fitter and healthier, allow them to make new friends and create memories that will last a lifetime.

There are four sections to the Bronze Award:

- Skills
- Volunteering
- Physical Recreation
- Expedition

The expedition at Bronze level involves two training days in school and then a training and assessed expedition. During the assessed expedition the students will be walking in a group of six to seven students for two days, with an overnight camp, along a route that they have planned themselves. It is tremendously fun but also challenging and rewarding. The expedition side of the award will be delivered by Wild Country Consultants (WCC), whom we have worked closely with for the last few years. WCC provide highly qualified instructors who will be supported during the expedition by myself and other Backwell School staff.

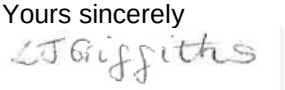
The other three sections the students complete independently. They will need carry out two of the sections for three months and one for six months. At the end of the time period they obtain an assessor report from whoever was over seeing their activity and upload this to their e D of E account. There is lots of information about what can be done on the D of E website. A lot of our students will be doing things that could count already!
www.dofe.org

There is currently lots of flexibility in place, due to the restrictions imposed, because of COVID 19. It would still be possible for students to complete these sections even while having to socially distance at the moment.

I would really appreciate it if you could encourage your son/daughter to watch the power point via FROG and if they are interested in taking part they need to complete the attached expression of interest form and return to me by **Monday 1 June 2020**.

The e-mail address to return forms to is lgriffiths1@backwellschool.net If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely



L Griffiths
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Duke of Edinburgh 2020-21: Expression of Interest Form

Please complete this electronically using Black Ink.

Please email to lgriffiths1@backwellschool.net by Monday 1 June 2020

Name_____ **Tutor Group**_____

Please take time to consider the following questions carefully, students who take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award need to be fully committed to completing the scheme. Further information on the scheme can be found at www.dofe.org take time to look at the 'doing your DofE award' section before completing the questions.

Why are you interested in completing the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award?

What do you think you will get out of taking part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award?

What are your initial thoughts and ideas on the types of activities you would consider for the following sections of the award? Further information on what activities can count towards the sections can be found at www.dofe.org

*Remember all sections must be worked on over a time frame of **three months** and **one section for an additional three months,** the time commitment for each section should be one hour a week.*

Volunteering	Physical	Skill
Please circle 3 months or 6 months	3 months or 6 months	3 months or 6 months

SIGNED (student) _____ Date_____

I/We support our child in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

SIGNED (parent)_____ Date_____