

Kings' Duke of Edinburgh Award

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BRONZE AWARD

Welcome to the Kings' Duke of Edinburgh Open Award Group.

This will be the sixth year for the Bronze Award and it has proved to be a very popular activity. Demand for places is always high and this means that only those young people who are really committed to the Award should apply.

Structure of the Award

At each level the Award consists of four sections:

Physical Recreation - learning a new sport, eg rock climbing, dancing, squash, karate etc.

Service - doing something for the community, eg volunteering in a charity shop, working on a conservation project, helping the fire brigade, or working in an old people's home.

Skills - learning a new skill. This can be anything from playing a musical instrument, to archery, to learning another language.

Expedition - Planning, preparing and undertaking an expedition which is self-sufficient in rural/open country. Training and assessment will take place in such locations as the Purbecks, New Forest and the South Downs.

This IS a big commitment. Although you have until age 25 to complete the Award, most participants have completed their Bronze Award by the end of Year 10. Do you have the time and commitment to do this? In the past, participants have found that D of E has taken up a lot of their spare time.

Timescale for Involvement:

Physical Recreation	Service	Skill	Expedition
3 months	3 months	3 months	3 Training weekends
One of these sections has to be for six months			Practice expedition (24kms over a 2 days)
			Final Expedition (24-32km over 2 days)

Expedition Section

Training for the expedition section takes place every 3rd Thursday evening, 7 - 9.00pm during term time in the Kings' Community Centre. In addition, there are 3 training weekends, a practice expedition and a qualifying expedition, each over 2 days. Participants must attend all the training sessions and weekend practices in order to complete the expedition section of the award. A programme of the training and activities will be distributed with your record books.

If you cannot make **ALL** the training weekends and the Thursday evening training sessions **DO NOT SIGN UP**, you would be taking the place of someone more committed.

Expedition Dates 2008-2009

Event	Date	Location
Training - Weekend	Sat 15 November 2008 and Sun 16 November 2008 or Sat 22 November 2008 and Sun 23 November 2008	Hazeley Down, Winchester
Training - Weekend	Sat 14 March 2009 and Sun 15 March 2009	Purbecks
Training - Weekend	Sat 25 April 2009 and Sun 26 April 2009	Crab Wood
Practice Expedition	Sat 9 May 2009 and Sun 10 May 2009 or Sat 23 May 2009 and Sun 24 May 2009	New Forest
Qualifying Expedition	Sat 6 June 2009 and Sun 7 June 2009 or Sat 20 June 2009 and Sun 21 June 2009	New Forest

Communication

We have a website www.kingsdofe.co.uk which will be used for distributing information to participants and parents. Please provide an email address on the application form for yourself and your son or daughter as these will be used to notify you of any letters etc that are placed on the website.

Kings' Duke of Edinburgh Award

Costs

The Kings' D of E Award Group is run entirely by volunteers and does not receive any outside funding either from Kings' School or from Hampshire County Council. Therefore participants will be expected to pay for the cost of their training as follows.

- £11.00 Award Registration - covers record book and entrance pack.
Cheque made payable to HCC
- £100.00 Training fees to cover kit, transport, campsite fees, assessment fees, hire of transport, use and purchase of equipment such as maps, gas, Trangias, tents, rucksacks etc.
Cheque made payable to Kings D of E Bronze Group.

As with all courses, if participants drop out after enrolment, then the training cost will not be refunded.

In addition, there will also be a fun activity/team building day at Calshot. This activity day is not compulsory but is usually well attended. The cost is around £35 which will be collected nearer the time of the event.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is intended for the benefit of all. Therefore, if any prospective participant is likely to experience difficulties in meeting these costs, please contact the Award Leader, James Batho (01962-869030).

Insurance

Please see attached notes about participant insurance.

Equipment

We do have a number of tents, rucksacks, Trangias, compasses and maps. The only items of equipment participants are expected to provide are a good pair of walking boots (approximate cost £40/50), sleeping bag (approximate cost £30) and waterproof jacket/trousers.

For anyone not wishing to purchase kit, this can be hired at a minimal cost from the local D of E Stores.

Outdoor Activities

Hampshire County Council has very strict guidelines about outdoor activities. Any expeditions must be notified and approved by the D of E Award Unit and HCC Outdoor Education. A risk assessment is completed for each expedition. All trainers who lead the participants are registered with the Award Scheme, possess a current first aid certificate and have passed an HCC Outdoor Education Expedition Training Course. The ratio between trainers and participants is strictly controlled. Trainers who drive a minibus have passed a Midas minibus test. All trainers and adults helping with the Award have been CRB checked.

Enrolment

Due to the high demand each year, places will be allocated on a 'first come first served basis. It is important that the Award Registration form is completed and returned to me at the address above, together with the two cheques made out as above, by **Friday 11th July**. If participants miss the first training weekend or two midweek sessions, we will have to offer their place to someone more committed.

First Meeting Thursday 4th September 7 - 9pm

There will be an initial meeting of the new group on **Thursday 4th September 2008** for all those who have been accepted by the Kings' Group. **Attendance on this evening is required** as the teams (6/7 participants in each team) will be formed and record books handed out.

Mobile Phone Policy

Any mobile phones brought to the evening sessions must be switched off and remain 'out of bounds' until the end of the session. If they are brought on the Expeditions/Training Days, they must be considered to be part of the emergency equipment and used only if required to summon assistance.

Behaviour Policy

A group contract will be developed with the participation of the young people during the first sessions.

Further Information about the Award

If you do not manage to get a place in the Kings' Group, then there are other local Open Centres in Hampshire where you can undertake the Award. For further information on these please contact me on 01962 869030.

Further information about the Award Scheme can be found on the D of E website www.theaward.org.

James Batho
Kings' Award Group Leader