

Dear Parents / Carers

RE: Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award 2017-18

We are pleased to be able to offer the Gold Award for Year 12 students this year. Students are required to complete 5 sections which make up the award: *Volunteering, Physical, Skill, the Expedition and a Residential*. Further information can be found on www.DofE.org which gives details about time requirements. Sections may be backdated to a young person's 16th birthday. Students can do Gold if they have not done Silver by doing a direct entry. This is processed after this initial form is handed in.

We will be running the Gold Award by employing Challenge Expeditions, qualified mountain leaders, who will run the award and assess the expeditions. The 2017-18 expedition dates are outlined below.

The cost will be £460. This will cover registration, expeditions and administration. Challenge will provide transport, tents, bags, stoves and pans. All other kit needs to be sourced by the student; any kit loaned must be returned promptly in the same condition as borrowed. A visit form which must be completed and returned is attached.

If your son/daughter is interested in undertaking the Gold Award this year we are initially asking for confirmation of your permission to reserve a place. You will then be asked to pay a deposit of £60.00 on Parent Pay to confirm your place by 4 December. A second instalment of £200 will be due on 3 March and a final payment of £200 will be due on 24 April. This must all be done via ParentPay, including the deposit.

Please can you and your son/daughter complete the details on the back page, and return the following **by Wednesday 15th November to Mrs Bibby in the Sixth Form Centre;**

DofE Expeditions 2017-18

Practice Expedition – (4 days)	30/06/18 to 03/07/18
Qualifying Expedition – (4 days)	30/08/18 to 02/09/18

One expedition is likely to be in the Lake District and one in North Wales but final decisions will be made by Challenge Expeditions in 2018.

- Reply slip (attached to this letter)
- Cheshire East Council Educational Visit form

Yours faithfully

Mr A Graham

DofE Coordinator

ajg@phs.cheshire.sch.uk

Return Slip for Gold Award 2017-18

Name: _____

Form: _____

The Duke of Edinburgh Award will mainly occur outside of school hours.

In order to complete the award I understand my son/daughter will be required to undertake the following:

- Complete online Volunteering, Skills, Physical and Residential proposal
- Complete and evidence Volunteering, Skills, Physical and Residential and sections on eDofE
- Complete relevant lectures
- Complete Practice walk
- Complete the Qualifying and Assessed expeditions (4 days and three nights).
- Kit loaned will be returned promptly in the same condition as borrowed

I give my permission for my son/daughter to undertake the above expeditions. I understand that no member of staff from Poynton High School will accompany the expedition. Whilst completing the Volunteering/Skill/Physical/Residential sections I accept responsibility for the supervision of my child.

I understand that the cost of undertaking the Gold Award at Poynton High School is £460 and that a deposit of £60 is required by 4 December, followed by a second instalment of £200 by 3 March and a third payment of £200 by 24 April. I understand that it may not be possible to supply a refund if my child drops out because external agencies have been booked. Please contact the school if due to financial difficulties you would like to be considered for more flexible payment plans.

Parent /Carer signature: _____

Date: _____

- Please return this to the Sixth Form Support Office by 15 November 2017 -