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Principal  
Alan Henderson

[www.melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)

6<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

### Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

I am writing to tell you about the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE), which your son/daughter has expressed an interest in. This Award is a nationally recognised scheme, and it helps to develop critical skills such as team work and leadership. Students complete 4 sections: Volunteering; learning a new skill; completing a Physical Activity and taking part in a 2 day expedition. Students must complete activities for 3-6 months. Further details of the scheme can be found at [www.dofe.org.uk](http://www.dofe.org.uk).

Here at Melksham Oak we are able to support students to complete all 3 levels of the award. They can complete their Gold award in 6<sup>th</sup> form; their Silver award in years 10 and 11 and their Bronze Award during Year 9. If your son or daughter signs up for the Bronze award we will provide training and support to help them complete all sections. Training takes place in 6-8 after school training sessions; as well as 2 practice walks and a practice expedition. We will then arrange an Assessed Expedition. The dates for the walks and expeditions are as follows:

- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Practice Walk
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Practice Walk
- 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> May – Practice Expedition
- 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> June – Assessed Expedition

### **Cost**

To complete the award there is a total cost of £60 which we ask to be paid up front. This includes a £22 enrolment fee to the DofE charity, transport and camping costs and also a small donation towards the cost of tents and other necessary equipment. There is some funding available for students on Free School Meals and if you would like further details about this please contact me on the email below.

### **What to do now**

I will be holding a Parents Information Evening on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm, when I will provide more details about the award and hand out enrolment forms. Please return the Reply Slip below to let me know if you will be attending or if you would like details emailed.

Yours Sincerely

Debbie Steer

HEAD OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION

[Steerd@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:Steerd@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)

<b>Trip</b>	DofE Bronze	<b>Date</b>		<b>Pupil Name</b>	
<b>Tutor Group</b>		<b>Parent Signature</b>		<b>Email:</b>	

**Please delete as appropriate:**

- I will be attending the parents evening on the 9<sup>th</sup> January
- I cannot attend the parents evening, please email details