

21st September 2015

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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Your child has expressed an interest in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. This is a highly respected and challenging award that universities and employers find desirable in applicants. Successful candidates always develop high levels of commitment, fitness and self-discipline, as well as the ability to problem solve, collaborate to achieve shared goals and communicate effectively with others. It demands a firm and consistent commitment.

The taught element of the course takes place on Wednesday afternoons from 14.10 - 15.30 in 0.12. In addition, students are required to complete skill, physical, volunteering and expedition activities. Volunteering opportunities are available in school (e.g. 'Tea and Toast Breakfast Club', '12-4-8 mentoring scheme', 'Toe-by-Toe reading programme' and 'Lunch Time Table Tennis club).

First Aid Training is mandatory - this can be completed in school at a cost of £10. Students who have already completed first aid training may be exempt if certification is provided. A full list of the required kit for the expeditions is attached and at www.dofe.org. We encourage students to borrow kit wherever possible to minimise costs.

The cost of Silver DoE to students covers registration, log book, first aid training and use of tents, gas stoves, mess tins, maps, compasses and other expedition expenses. There is no charge for instruction or supervision. **Campsite fees and gas for stoves plus spending money must be brought on expedition.**

Please see full details of the key dates for which attendance is mandatory.

First Aid Qualification

- **Qualification:** Basic First Aid Qualification
- **Dates:** Wednesday 2nd December 2015 & Wednesday 9th December 2015: 2.00 – 3.30
- **Cost:** £10. Certificates will be provided upon completion
- **Location:** Suthers Building, Toot Hill School

DIRECT ENTRY TRAINING: Bingham to Cotgrave – One Night Two Days – Direct & Remote Supervision

- **Date:** Thursday 14th – Friday 15th April 2016
- **Meet:** Toot Hill Leisure Centre Reception @ 08.45 hrs
- **Campsite:** Hollygate Scout Camp, Hollygate Lane, Cotgrave, Nr Hollygate Farm, NG12 2JW. Grid Ref: SK655 363
- **Campsite Fee:** £3.50
- **Pickup:** Toot Hill Leisure Centre @ 14:00hrs

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PRACTICE WALK in Derbyshire – Two Days Two nights – Remote Supervision

- **Date:** Friday 6th May – Sunday 8th May 2016
- **Meet:** 21:00hrs at Middlehills Farm
- **Camp 1:** Middlehills Farm, Grangemill, Matlock, DE4 4HY
(Grid Ref: 236,577) **Tel:** 01629 650 368
- **Camp 2:** Mandale Campsite, Mandale Farm, Haddon Grove, Bakewell, DE45 1JF
(Grid Ref: SK184 665) **Tel:** 01629 812 416
- **Camp Fees:** £4 & £4.50 (+ 20p per minute shower)
- **Pickup:** 15:00hrs. Eyam Museum, Hawkhill Rd, Eyam S32 5QP (Grid Ref: 214,766)
(There are two large car parks opposite – one is free; toilets are available)

Pre-Expedition Check

The assessors need to see kit, route plans, diet plan, evidence of first aid qualification and details of aim and objectives. Students must be prepared to answer questions (e.g. navigation, camp craft, safety etc).

- **Date:** Wednesday 15th June 2016
- **Time:** 14.10 - 15.30 in 0.12 (Suthers Building)

QUALIFYING EXPEDITION – Three Days Two nights – Remote Supervision

- **Date:** Tuesday 21st June 2016 – Thursday 23rd June 2016
- **Meet:** 08.45 for 09:00 departure
Carsington Water Visitor Centre, Big Lane, Upper Town, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1ST (Grid Ref: 241 516)
- **Campsite 1:** Thorpe Mill Farm, Thorpe, Ashbourne DE6 2AX.
(Grid Ref: 148 505) **Tel:** 01335 350 361
- **Campsite 2:** Upper Hurst Farm, Hulme End, Hartington, SK17 0HH
(Grid Ref: 114 589) **Tel:** 01298 687 273
- **Campsite Fees:** £4 & £7 (plus £3 per vehicle) (Sue@upperhurstfarm.com)
- **Pickup:** 15:00hrs. Hurdlow Car Park on the High Peak Trail. (Grid Ref: 128 658)
(50m from The Royal Oak Pub, Hurdlow, Nr Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 9QJ)

In order to promote independence during the expeditions, students will be supervised in several forms as described by the DoE Expedition handbook (2015):

- Direct:** supervisor is in direct contact with the team and is accompanying them
- Close:** the supervisor is close enough to intervene if necessary to support, guide and prevent mistakes from being made
- Remote:** the supervisor remains out of sight and hearing and allows the team to get on with the expedition without any intervention

During Remote Supervision, staff will have a supervision plan which means teams will be met at the start, finish and at several checkpoints throughout the day.

In order to ensure expeditions are suitably challenging the expeditions will be completed in the White Peak area of the Derbyshire Dales. **Please note that it is the responsibility of students to organise their own travel arrangements.** We strongly encourage car sharing whenever possible as this promotes an environmentally friendly message through preventing unnecessary journeys. Should it be difficult to collect your child from the Peak District expeditions, you may wish for them to travel back independently by train. If this is the case, please give your consent on the reply form. Please note that a member of staff will accompany the students to an agreed local station and ensure they board the correct train. After this point, students will not be supervised, nor will they be met upon their arrival back into Nottinghamshire. Support can be provided in lessons to arrange train times. The cost and responsibility of purchasing tickets is the responsibility of the young person.

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3.

Please return the attached consent slip, application form, payments and medical form (EV4) by Friday 25th September 2015. Please note that limited places are available and that places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Students who have completed bronze will receive priority. Once all places are allocated, applications will be held in a waiting list. Your child will be notified if a place becomes available. Unsuccessful applicants will have their payments returned.

Please keep this letter safe as this provides all of the information you need to know.

Yours sincerely

M Tinsley

Mr M Tinsley
Associate School Leader
Centre Manager DoE

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Please return to Mr Tinsley, Toot Hill School by Friday 25th September 2015. Thank you.

Silver DoE Award 2015 - 2016

Name: **Tutor Set:**

(Please complete/

I/We give * / do not* give permission for my child to take part in the Silver DoE.

I/We have enclosed a cheque for **£70** (made payable to Toot Hill School).

(This covers the cost of log book, tents, stoves, first aid training, cooking equipment, maps, compasses, basic first aid training and other expedition expenses. There is no charge for instruction or supervision.)

I/We have fully completed and enclosed the DoE application form.

I/We understand supervision will be direct, indirect and remote.

I/We understand students need to be dropped off / picked up at the locations / times indicated.

I/We will collect my son/daughter from the locations / times indicated.

I/We give* / do not give* my consent for my child to travel back independently from the Peak District by train. I understand that after a member of staff has ensured they board the correct train, they will no longer be supervised and will not be met by a member of staff upon their return to Nottinghamshire.

I/We have completed, signed and returned the EV4 form. I shall contact mtinsley@toothillschool.co.uk to advise of changes, if necessary.

I/We understand that there are limited places available and that places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Priority will be given to those who have already completed their bronze award.

Adult volunteers are needed to assist teams whilst on expedition. Should you know of anyone who would like to get involved please write their names & contact details below:

Name: _____ Phone Number _____ Email: _____

Name: Signed: (Parent/Carer)

Date:.....

- Enc: DoE application form
EV4 Form
Payment