



Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School

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September 2022

Dear Year 12 students (cc parents/guardians)

RE: DUKE OF EDINBURGH GOLD 2022-2023

The DofE award scheme is highly valued in UCAS applications and by employers as it shows endurance, initiative, skills and dedication. We are pleased to be able to offer DofE Gold for interested students.

You should be aware that there are a few elements to the full award including a skills, volunteering, physical and residential section as well as the completion of two expeditions. For full details please see www.dofe.org

The aims of the award sections:

- *Volunteering* - undertake service to individuals or the community
- *Physical* - improve in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities
- *Skills* - developing practical and social skills and personal interest
- *Expeditions* - planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey in the UK. We are planning to do these in Wales in wild country. These expeditions will be undertaken in Term 6 of Year 12 and Term 1 of Year 13. Please note there will be a cost for the school expeditions package dependent on numbers which would be a maximum of **£790.00**. This price includes transport to and from both expeditions, 1 day training in school (by Adtrex), 1 day route planning in school (SLGGS staff), 5-day practice expedition in the Brecon Beacons and a 5-day qualifying expedition in Snowdonia. N.B. Students may also arrange to join an open expedition of their choice if they prefer. This would not be arranged through the school.
- *Residential* - staying and working away from home doing a shared activity. This must be planned by the student and signed off by a member of staff at the residential site. This could be a pre-university summer course, a scout/guide jamboree or NCS residential, for example.

Participants have until they are 25 to complete the award but we hope that most students would complete whilst still in the Sixth Form. The DofE has also made some temporary changes until October 2023 to allow the continuation of activities during COVID-19 and there is more information on their site <https://www.dofe.org/DofEwithadifference>

To enrol on the award there will be a registration cost of **£30.00** which will access the Gold Award and allow you to receive your log-in details and a member's pack. You will need to complete and return the attached enrolment form and planning booklet to indicate your planned activity for each of the sections before we enrol you as well as a brief explanation, not more than 250 words typed as to your motivation for pursuing DofE Gold. This ensures that you have thought about your plans for the activities, and we can check that they

are suitable and likely to be approved. Please make sure you submit all three documents at the same time. The deadline for applying for DofE Gold is **Tuesday 20th September**.

Applicants will be informed as to whether their application is complete and will then be asked to make a payment of **£30.00** via Parentpay (non-refundable registration fee which is paid to the DofE) by **26th September**.

If you wish to join the school expeditions, there will also be an additional deposit of **£150.00** which will be non-refundable unless minimum numbers are not reached. This will be due by **15th October**. The second, non-refundable payment for expeditions of **£150.00** will be payable by **15th November**.

Please take a look at the Adtrex website for more information and an idea of the expedition programme:
<https://www.adtrex.co.uk/dofe-training-in-canterbury-kent/dofe-expedition-programmes-kent/dofe-group-expedition-programmes-kent/gold-dofe-group-expedition-programme-kent>

There are sometimes some small bursaries available through the DofE and other charities to help with costs for things like activity sections or clothing for expeditions. Please contact me as soon as possible if you wish to apply for one of these.

Please contact me at dofegold@langton.kent.sch.uk if you wish to discuss anything regarding the DofE Award or the enrolment process.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Stavri
Duke of Edinburgh Gold Manager

Checklist: Please send these to dofegold@langton.kent.sch.uk by **20th September 2022**

- 1) Enrolment form completed by you and signed by your parents/guardians
- 2) Bitesize planner (skills, volunteering and physical sections only need to be completed)
- 3) 250 words explaining why you want to do DofE Gold **including whether you wish to join the school expeditions**

Expedition dates:

1 x day - classroom based training - date TBC.

1 x day route-planning and menu planning TBC

5 x days - Training & Practice Expedition - Brecon Beacons - Monday 19th to Friday 23rd June 2023

5 x days - Qualifying Expedition - Snowdonia - Monday 18th to Friday 22nd September 2023