

Our Ref: 123/16

5th October 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Expedition Section

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze expeditions at St. Margaret's will be delivered by Award Solutions.

The Bronze expedition programme will be delivered in three separate blocks; a training day at school; a 2 day training/practice expedition; finally a 2 day qualifying (assessed) expedition. Your child is required to be registered with the Award and have an 'eDofE' login prior to joining an expedition.

Expedition Training Day - St Margaret's Sports Complex (date to be arranged)

A one day training with Award Solutions (AS) Staff, delivered at the school. It will include sessions on group and personal equipment, expedition food and menu planning, use of stoves and tents, first aid and navigation skills, to ensure the students are fully prepared for their expedition.

Before your son goes on the expeditions he must have completed 2 other sections of the Bronze Award which are either the physical, skill or volunteering section.

Two Day Bronze Practice Expedition

The students will be divided into groups and each will have a qualified member of staff to supervise them over the 2 days.

The staff will work with the students to develop their navigation skills, camp craft, and teamwork skill. The staff will also debrief the groups at the end to allow the students to recognise what they have achieved and learnt over the 2 days, and to identify any areas which require improvement, thus preparing them for their qualifying venture. Your son may return tired and aching because he will do exercise he has not done before, but he will be fit for school the next day.

We have a pre-planned route using Tawd Vale Scout Camp (L40 5UL) near Parbold, Lancashire as the starting point, with 2 circular routes, which avoids the issue of moving cars to the camp at the end of the day, staff can spend their time working with the students.

Two Day Bronze Qualifying Expedition

The students will stay in the same expedition groups with the same supervisor as the practice. The assessor would be a supervisor from another group.

There is a pre-planned route using Bispham Scout Camp Site (WN5 7DT) as the starting point with 2 circular routes. Again, it's a route that has been used over a number of years, which will allow the students to have a challenging, but safe expedition with plenty of opportunity to allow them to be remotely supervised.

They will be debriefed at the end so they can identify what they have achieved and celebrate their achievement and again rest after a tiring but fun experience, ready for school the next day.

The total cost of the whole Bronze Award is £141.50 which includes all training, enrolment to the DofE, the expeditions (excluding food and transport), tents, rucksacks, roll mats, camping stoves, maps and compasses.

In line with a recent change to our Charging Policy, pupils for whom we receive Pupil Premium funding (e.g. those entitled, or previously entitled, to Free School Meals) will have the first £100 paid for by St Margaret's, as the whole cost is over £100. Therefore the cost to Pupil Premium qualifying students will be £41.50.

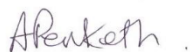
If you wish your son to take part in this Award and to secure his place, please complete the attached registration form, medical form and the reply-slip below enclosing a deposit of £25.00 (*cheques should be made payable to St Margaret's Academy*) and return to school by **17th October 2016**

If Parents or carers are experiencing financial difficulties they can contact me, in confidence, to discuss the matter.

Please note that once a deposit is paid there is a commitment to pay the final amount as the school has booked and paid for an External Activity Provider to organise expeditions etc.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A N Penketh
Vice Principal



Mrs J Riding
D of E Co-ordinator

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REPLY SLIP TO: Mrs A N Penketh and Mrs Jean Riding – Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Name: _____ Form: _____

I would like my son to take part in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award and enclose the non-refundable deposit of £25.00/I do not wish to make a voluntary contribution* (**delete as appropriate*)

****Cash or cheques to St Margaret's School Fund A/C in a named, sealed envelope in order that we can secure the places. This should be handed in to the school office.**

Signed: _____(parent/carer) Date: _____