



King's School
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23rd October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you about the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. Students currently in Year 10, who have completed the Bronze Award or are close to completion, are invited to join the Award, which has a long history of enriching students' skills and confidence and enhancing their employability.

There are four sections to the Silver Award. Students are required to complete 6 months of volunteering, 6 months of physical or skill, and a further 3 months of physical or skill. In addition, students will complete a 3 day, 2 night expedition.

Completing the Silver Award requires a significant commitment from students. Participants should complete a minimum of 24 hours over 6 months on each of the first three sections listed above, with a reduction of 12 hours for one of the sections. Students will be expected to make their own arrangements for these sections although this could involve participation in an existing club either at school or elsewhere. In every case, an appropriate adult will be expected to act as a supervisor and complete a brief assessment of the participation in the activity. Please be aware that students can back date any activities to the start of Year 10.

The fourth section is the expedition. This is a **three-day** walking and camping journey which is arranged by the school with full training in advance of the weekend. The expedition will be run by 4th Dimension who are experienced in leading expeditions in the UK and who hold nationally recognised qualifications. In addition, students are required to complete a full practice weekend with the assessors to prepare for the increased challenge of the silver award. The dates of the weekends are as follows:

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice Weekend: 1st to 3rd May 2026

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Qualifier Weekend: 12th to 14th June 2026

The cost for the two expeditions is approximately £205 each (£410 in total) which includes training, assessment and camping for the 6 days and 4 nights in total. Further information regarding the expeditions will be communicated later in the year.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a national charity, and whilst receiving some funding from government and commercial sources, participants support the charity through the purchase of a Welcome Pack. The cost of the Award is £30.50 – this fee only covers the cost of the enrolment fee (which includes a welcome pack). Payments can be made via ParentPay by Friday 14th November.



Financial assistance may be available for students in receipt of free school meals (note the DofE may be able to provide some bursary funds for the expedition); please contact the school finance office by emailing finance@kingsschoolhove.org.uk as soon as possible, in confidence, for further information.

If you would like further information at this stage on the Duke of Edinburgh Award, please visit their website www.dofe.org. You can also contact myself via email (b.walker@kingsschoolhove.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Mr B Walker

Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator