

REF: CHE/LNE

November 2022

## Duke of Edinburgh Dates and Sessions

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with pleasure to announce our dates and sessions for the Duke of Edinburgh award for both Bronze and Silver. The location and more details are to be sent out closer to the time.

### Bronze

Practice: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March (1 day of walking)

Awarding: Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May (2 days of walking 1 night of camping)

### Silver

Practice: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April (2 days of walking 2 nights of camping)

Awarding: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June (3 days of walking 2 nights of camping)

In between now and then, it is vital that your child attends DofE club every Thursday after school 3-4pm in English 6. The sessions between now and the expeditions are mandatory to passing the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. Below is a timetable of what your child can expect at the DofE club:

Date	Session
10/11/22	<b>Session cancelled due to staff training.</b> Task: Login to eDofE and submit activities for volunteering, skills and physical. If this has already been completed, complete one of the activities and upload it as evidence.
17/11/22	Team building in the hall or gym. This does not have to be in their chosen DofE groups but a great time to learn about working cohesively with others.
24/11/22	<b>Session cancelled due to Year 9 Parents' Evening.</b> I will be doing a drop-in session 3:00-3:30 for students who are struggling to decide on what to do for their activities and for students who would like help navigating with their eDofE. Task: Upload evidence from the activities.
01/12/22	20 conditions of the expedition which are mandatory to know to pass. Learning the countryside code. Quiz to test their knowledge.
08/12/22	<b>Session cancelled due to Year 11 Parents' Evening</b> Task: The students will receive a meal plan and their task is to plan meals that are sustainable for their expedition. This will be discussed in the next session.
15/12/22	Menu planning: we will look at their meals they have planned and see whether they are suitable. During this session, we will discuss calories and how much food they need to take. As a team, they can then start building a menu using ideas from flashcards we have.  Parent/Carer drop in 5:00-6:00: What your child should have achieved so far and what to do over Christmas. Ideas for struggling students. Link: <a href="https://meet.google.com/xmf-mkzt-xdg">meet.google.com/xmf-mkzt-xdg</a>
Christmas Holidays	Please ensure that your child is continuing to complete their activities over the Christmas holidays and that you are checking their eDofE.
05/01/23	Equipment and what to take: this needs to be done early as all kit needs to with the students before their practice expedition. This will cover mandatory equipment and recommended. They will decide on how they are going to split their equipment across the group.

12/01/23	Team building in the hall or gym in their chosen DofE groups. These tasks will specifically be focusing on communication and trust.
19/01/23	<b>Session cancelled due to staff training</b> Task: Utilise this time to check the students are up-to-date with their eDofE evidence.
26/01/23	First Aid 3:13-4:15 – This session will be run by a qualified first aider who is a volunteer for St. John's Ambulance and is mandatory as the students to be competent in basic first aid on the expedition.
02/02/23	<b>Session cancelled due to staff training</b> Task: Go through kit list and check in teams that they have, or will have, everything with them in preparation for their practice expeditions.
09/02/23	Grid references/Map symbols/Maps/Compasses: Navigation skills is perhaps one of the most useful skills to have on the Expedition. They will be following a route that they make, identifying possible dangers and looking at the distance and timings. Key symbols will help identify where the pupils are on a map, and should they get lost, their navigation skills should be used to get back on route.
Half-term	Please ensure that your child is continuing to complete their activities over the Christmas holidays and that you are checking their eDofE.
23/02/23	<b>Session cancelled due to Year 8 Parents' Evening</b> Task: The students will be given a map and can get used to looking at a map and planning a route (this route does not have to be walked but a useful skill to have when they come to working on their own route).
02/03/23	<b>Weather dependent</b> Cooking - The pupils will experience first-hand how to cook with a camping stove and how to light the fire. Safety measures will be put in place to cook a lovely meal with their team.
09/03/23	<b>Weather dependent</b> Tents – The tent will need to be carried on the expedition, put up for camping and taken back down again ready for the second/third day of the expedition.
16/03/23	Catch up for students working on their eDofE evidence.
23/03/23	Practice expedition preparation. Recap of previous sessions.
25/03/23	Bronze practice expedition in QE Country Park. More information to follow.
30/03/23	<b>Session cancelled due to Year 10 Parents' Evening</b> Task: Reflect with parents and guardians on how the practice expedition went. What went well? What do we need to change for the awarding expedition?
Easter Holidays	To enjoy the expedition to its full potential, the Easter Holidays is a great time to upload more evidence for the students' activities. The expedition will be much more enjoyable if all evidence is uploaded before.
20/04/23	Silver and Bronze to be separate for this. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
27/04/23	Silver and Bronze to be separate for this. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
28/04/23 - 30/04/23	Silver practice expedition. 2 days of walking 2 days of camping. New Forest.
04/05/23	Silver and Bronze to be separate for this. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
11/05/23	Silver and Bronze to be separate for this. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
18/05/23	Silver and Bronze to be separate for this. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
20/05/23 - 21/05/23	Bronze awarding expedition.
25/05/23	<b>Session cancelled due to Year 7 Parents' Evening</b> Task: Reflect on the expedition. What went well? What could be done better?
Half-term	Ensure that all evidence is complete and that assessor reports are completed. Email assessors what progress they have made and skills they have learned to allow these to be completed.
08/06/23	Bronze catch up sessions. Upload maps and complete the expedition sections on their eDofE with staff.

	Silver. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
15/06/23	Bronze catch up sessions. Upload maps and complete the expedition sections on their eDofE with staff. Silver. Planning route – These sessions will be heavily focused on the route. The pupils will plan their own route for the official expedition to allow them to put their navigation skills into practice. They will discuss and identify check points to ensure they are on the right route. We will be promoting independence for this route.
16/06/23 - 18/06/23	Silver expedition. 3 days of walking 2 nights of camping.
22/06/23	Silver to have a reflection session and talk about preparing their presentation. Bronze and catch up sessions. Upload maps and complete the expedition sections on their eDofE with staff.
29/06/23	<b>Session cancelled due to Activities Week</b>
06/07/23	Silver to prepare their presentations. Bronze and catch up sessions. Upload maps and complete the expedition sections on their eDofE with staff.
13/07/23	<b>Session cancelled due to Sports Festival</b> Task: Bronze to finish their eDofE accounts for the following week. Silver to finish their presentations.
20/07/23	<b>Silver to present their presentations at some point this week. Earlier on would be ideal so that their awards can be handed out at the celebration assembly.</b>

If you have any questions, or if your child cannot attend any DofE sessions, please do not hesitate to email me on [chenshaw@trafalgarschool.org.uk](mailto:chenshaw@trafalgarschool.org.uk).

Miss Nerssession and I are so excited for this year to come and we cannot wait to see the progress your child makes throughout this award.

Yours sincerely,

Miss C. Henshaw

Outdoor Education Coordinator

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