



November 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I am really pleased that your student has shown an interest in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and would like to offer them a place.

The total cost for taking part in the award in 2025-26 is **£598**.

This includes the enrolment fee paid directly to the Duke of Edinburgh charity and expedition costs covering camping fees, transport to and from the expedition areas, use of tents, maps, stoves, fuel, staffing & assessors.

Other costs to consider are food and personal kit which are not included in that total.

Important dates:

Attendance is required at all of the following:

Activity	Date	Location
<u>Kit briefing</u> Students will be briefed on expectation, kit and nutrition	TBC	SFT
<u>Practice Expedition</u> Two days walking and two nights overnight camp	Monday 13 to Wednesday 15 July 2026	Brecon Beacons
<u>Assessed route planning day</u>	Saturday 18 July 2026	In school
<u>Assessed expedition</u> Three days walking with two nights overnight camp	Saturday 12 September to Tuesday 15 September 2026 (leaving Friday 11 lunchtime)	Snowdonia

To secure your students place on the award scheme a payment of £50 (non-refundable) must be made **by Friday 28th November 2025**.

Payment should be made via 'ParentPay', our online cashless payment system. If you have any queries regarding Parent Pay or if your student is in receipt of the 16-19 Bursary, please contact the Finance Team via their email: finance@backwellschool.net

The remaining payments towards the balance of **£548** are set out as follows:

Payment 1 - £55 - Wednesday 31 December 2025
Payment 2 - £55 - Friday 30 January 2026
Payment 3 - £55 - Friday 27 February 2026
Payment 4 - £55 - Friday 27 March 2026
Payment 5 - £55 - Thursday 30 April 2025
Payment 6 - £55 - Friday 29 May 2026
Payment 7 - £55 - Monday 29 June 2026
Payment 8 - £55 - Friday 31 July 2026
Payment 9 - £55 - Friday 28 August 2026
Payment 10 - £53 - Wednesday 30 September 2026

If your student decides to withdraw from the scheme less than 4 weeks before one of the expeditions, you will still be liable for the expedition costs. This is due to the cancellation policy of the company that we are using.

Please complete the electronic enrolment form which can be found here:

[Gold Duke of Edinburgh Enrolment Form 2025 - 6 – Fill in form](#)

Once both the deposit and enrolment form have been received your student will be enrolled in D of E. Support will be given to participants who are new to e D of E (the system used to log activities). Payment should be made via 'ParentPay', our online cashless payment system. If you have any queries regarding Parent Pay, you require financial assistance or if your student is in receipt of the 16-19 Bursary, please contact the Finance Team via email at:

finance@backwellschool.net

It is possible to back date sections that have already been started on the D of E once they are enrolled. They should keep a record of what they do and must make sure that they identify an assessor before they start. This cannot be a relative, and must be someone over the age of 18. If your student has not yet chosen the activities that they will do for their volunteering, physical and skill sections, there are lots of ideas of the D of E website www.dofe.org.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at

lgriffiths1@backwellschool.net

Kind regards

Mrs Griffiths
D of E Manager