

22 July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Duke of Edinburgh Award Launch

As your child prepares to begin Year 10, I am delighted to inform you that The Hamble School will be launching the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)** for our current Year 9 students. This is an exciting opportunity for students to challenge themselves, develop new skills and gain valuable experiences that will support them both in school and beyond.

Why do DofE?

Completing a DofE Award is a fantastic way for young people to discover just how much they are capable of achieving. It gives them the opportunity to make new friends, pursue their interests, learn new skills and make a positive contribution to their community.

The DofE is highly regarded by colleges, universities and employers, as it demonstrates commitment, resilience, teamwork and initiative. More importantly, it helps young people develop confidence, independence and self-belief. We often say that once a young person has completed their DofE, they realise they are capable of overcoming challenges and are better prepared for whatever life may bring.

The DofE is non-competitive and accessible to all young people, regardless of their background, interests or abilities. It is a powerful way for students to grow in confidence and achieve something they can be truly proud of.

How does it work?

There are three levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award: Bronze, Silver and Gold. We will be launching the **Bronze Award** for our current Year 9 students.

To achieve their Bronze Award, participants must complete four sections:

- **Volunteering** – helping others and making a positive contribution to the community
- **Physical** – improving in a sport, fitness activity or physical pursuit
- **Skills** – developing a new skill or enhancing an existing one
- **Expedition** – planning, training for and completing an outdoor expedition

www.thehambleschool.co.uk

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Headteacher: Miss L Cambridge, BSc (Hons), MA Ed. NPQH



Students can choose the activities they would like to undertake for the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections, and we will provide guidance and support throughout the process.

The Expedition section involves spending two days and one night in the countryside. Comprehensive training will be provided beforehand to ensure all participants are fully prepared and able to enjoy the experience safely and successfully.

Next Steps

We hope many of our students will take advantage of this exciting opportunity and become part of the first Bronze DofE cohort at The Hamble School.

The anticipated cost of participation is £110 per student. However, this cost may reduce depending on the number of students who sign up. If your child would like to take part but the cost presents a barrier, please do not hesitate to contact me, as financial support may be available.

We have arranged an information evening for parents/carers and students on **Thursday 10 September 2026** from 5.30pm to 6.30pm in the Main Hall. This event will provide further information about the award, the commitment involved and the exciting opportunities available through DofE.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to contact me via general@thehambleschool.co.uk

You can also find further information on the DofE website: www.dofe.org

Thank you for your support. I hope you will agree that the Duke of Edinburgh's Award provides a unique opportunity for young people to develop confidence, resilience and independence, while creating lasting memories and valuable life experiences.

If you plan to attend the information evening, please complete the form below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/AH2ikZjSUS>

Yours faithfully



Mr A Bradshaw
Duke of Edinburgh Manager

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.