Sherburn High School

Headteacher: Mr Matt Gill

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Dear Parents

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme – Silver Award

I'm pleased to let you know that we intend to offer the Silver Award over the course of the next 12 months. The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award. As DofE Coordinator, I wanted to send you some information about what a DofE programme involves, the benefits for your child and how they can sign up.

About the DofE

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. Through their DofE, students will make friends and memories and build traits like confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can benefit mental health. They'll gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, team-working and self-motivation – and they'll achieve an Award that's recognised by top employers and can help them stand out when applying for university or jobs.

To achieve their Silver Award, participants must complete four sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and their Expedition. Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new. Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives. For more details about programmes and timescales visit www.DofE.org.

Silver Expedition Dates

The Silver package consists of registration, a 2 day, 2 night training and a 3 day, 2 night qualifying expedition.

The dates in the table below are fixed and students should not enrol onto the award if they cannot commit to them. Students will be required to undertake both the Practice and the Qualifying expedition.

20th – 22nd March 2027	Year 10 Silver Practice Expedition	PYBUS
10th – 12th July 2027	Year 10 Silver Qualifying Expedition	North York Moors

There will also be an after-school meeting to form walking groups and discuss the expedition programme. This is likely to be held in February and I will email once the date is confirmed.

Signing up

The total cost for registration, administration, training, insurance and provision of transport/personnel for completing both expeditions will be £424 and to make paying easier and faster, all payments will be collected via ParentPay which can be accessed on the school website or you can visit www.parentpay.com. The registration fee of

£50 is included in the total cost and covers the cost of the welcome pack (registration onto edofe & student log book), insurance and school's administration fees and is **non-refundable**. The remaining costs cover tuition, transport by minibus, use of equipment, fuel, appropriate external supervision and external assessment. The final cost must be paid before 2nd July 2027 and student's accounts must be up to date to allow them to participate on the expeditions. Financial support may be available for students eligible for free school meals. For further information on this, please contact me via my email dofe@shs.starmat.uk

The expeditions are supervised remotely using checkpoints and visits and staff camp on the same campsites as the groups. Photographs may be taken for promotional purposes such as the school's website. If you do not want that to happen, then please let me know by adding a comment to the enrolment form.

We will commence the expedition training in March 2027 but students will be enrolled onto the scheme as soon as they sign up and any section activities that they may have already been doing will count from the start of the academic year. It is hoped that many students will see the benefits of the award programme and commit to completing the Silver Level. If you would like your child to confirm their place on the award please complete the slip below, and ask students to hand in to me at Student Reception or email to daina.selby@shs.starmat.uk, log onto ParentPay and pay the registration fee of £50. The closing date for applications is **Friday 20th November 2026.** Once applications are in I will then send out an enrolment and medical form that is required by the DofE Expedition Team.

If you have any questions, I can be contacted via my email at daina.selby@shs.starmat For further information on the award please visit www.dofe.org.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to helping your child to achieve through their DofE.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Selby
DofE Coordinator

Year 10 SILVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD REGISTRATION SHS

Student's Name: _____ Form_____

I wish my child to register for The Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award.

Parent/Carer's Name: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Carer's email (for communication purposes)

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