



6th December 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award - Lower Five Update

Now that your daughter is in Lower Five she has the opportunity to start the DofE Silver Award. This can be completed within 6 months if the Bronze Award has already been completed. Please note that if your daughter needs any help in finishing off their Bronze Award I am available in Room 10 during Monday lunchtimes to offer support. I am aware that some of the students have considered the option of skipping the Silver level due to their imminent GCSES and going straight to the Gold Award instead. Please note that although this is possible they need to be aware that they can only start the Gold Award after they have turned 16, and if they have not completed Silver they will be required to do one of the Sections for 18 months.

If your daughter is interested in taking part in the Silver Award this year please read and consider all of the information within this letter before completing the attached Enrolment form. Please ensure that you also complete the additional Expedition slip to aid planning of the practice and qualifying expeditions. Please return both of these forms to College by **Friday 13th December 2019**, marked for my attention, with a payment of £47 made payable to 'The Ladies' College Duke of Edinburgh's Award'.

This enrolment fee includes initial registration with The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, use of the eDofE recording system, a welcome pack, completion certificate and badge, as well as a contribution towards the equipment and organisation of the DofE award scheme within The Ladies' College.

Within their Welcome Pack they will receive:

- A Welcome Letter
- Their online eDofE account (If new to the Award)
- Participant's Handbook
- Assessor Guidance booklet
- The DofE Reward Card, which currently offers 15% off Cotswold products, 10% off in Millets & Mountain Warehouse.



The Welcome Pack will be sent directly to the home address you provided us on your enrolment form. If you have previously completed the Bronze Award, we still require a new enrolment form for starting your Silver Award.

The Assessor Cards within the pack are for your daughter to give to her Assessor to provide them with information on what is required from them in their role.

New participants will be given access to an online eDofE account and shown how to add their section aims and evidence. Once plans have been submitted and approved, all participants need to do is collect evidence of themselves undertaking the activities, either by using photographs or a simple log of the weekly activity, and then upload this to their eDofE account. At the end of a section they will also need to obtain the all-important Assessor's Report to upload to their eDofE account.

I will then sign off each section in eDofE. When they have completed all parts of the Silver Award, The Duke of Edinburgh Award Licensed Organisation (The Youth Commission) will approve their final Award before issuing Certificates. These will be presented at The Ladies' College during Mark Reading.

How long does it take?

Each section must be done for a minimum of an hour a week over a period of three and six months. To achieve the Award your daughter must show persistence, commitment and personal development. (Direct entrants onto the Silver award, are required to do the programme for 12 months and therefore must complete a **further** six months in the Volunteering or the **longer** of the Physical or Skills sections.)

The Silver Award is not something that can be achieved through a short burst of enthusiasm. However participants may easily fit their DofE activities in around their school work, carrying them out in their own personal time, either as one of a range of options in supported/core time or as an after-school or lunchtime programme. They may choose to use an activity that they are already doing eg, volunteering at a swimming club they already attend or cooking for an elderly neighbour. They can of course also choose something completely new. Follow the link for a list of ideas to help inspire https://www.dofe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/programme_ideas_-_complete.pdf

Each progressive level of DofE demands more time and commitment from participants but they do have until their 25th Birthday to complete the Award. However, we would hope your daughter would complete her Silver Award by the end of Lower five or by her 16th Birthday when she can then start her Gold Award.

Expedition: The expedition element of the Award presents many wonderful opportunities and some specific challenges. The Ladies' College has in the past arranged trips to the Peak District, Purbecks, Swanage and The New Forest. This year we are proposing to again visit The New Forest

Dates: Proposed for 2020

Practice – 2nd – 6th April 2020

Qualifying – 7th – 11th July 2020

Joint Practice & Qualifying Expedition 7th – 14th July 2020

Estimated Cost: £350 - £400. Full financial details, and trip forms will be finalised once we know numbers, therefore please ensure you complete and return the slip at the bottom of this letter by Friday 13th December, to help us with the planning.

Principal
Mrs A Clancy BA (Combined Hons)
Email: principal@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Registrar
Miss R McClean
Email: registrar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

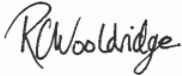
Vice Principal, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors
Miss E Bridge MA Oxon, ACA
Email: bursar@ladiescollege.ac.gg

I hope this letter provides you the information that you need to decide about enrolling on the Silver Award. If your daughter has already enrolled on the Silver Award, please can you just complete the slip below to aid planning.

We have a Parents evening planned for Tuesday 14th January 6pm, but please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information.

rwooldridge@ladiescollege.ac.gg

Yours sincerely



Yours sincerely
Mrs. R Wooldridge
Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinator, The Ladies' College

Please, complete and return the below to help us with planning of the Expedition Section by Friday 13th December 2020.

My daughter..... would like to take part in The Ladies' College Silver expedition to the New Forest and can make the proposed dates in 2020 please, tick **all** which your daughter is available to attend.

- Practice – 2nd – 6th April 2020
- Qualifying – 7th – 11th July 2020
- Joint Practice and Qualifying Expedition 7th -17th July 2020

Signed: _____ Date: _____