



# TAVISTOCK COLLEGE AND THE DofE

Developing young people's skills for life and work



## TAVISTOCK COLLEGE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD.

### INFORMATION SHEET 2018

Tavistock College is registered to operate the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and is supported by the Devon Awards Office; the College has a qualified expedition assessor and D of E leaders who can set up eDofE internet registrations and eDofE accounts, it also has a representative on the Tavistock District Award Scheme Committee.

The Award is a challenging programme of activities which encourages students to learn new skills, to help others and to experience adventure which will give a great sense of achievement.

***Students are expected to take responsibility for their individual training programmes and will need to give significant commitment in their own time, by attending after school briefings, evenings and weekend training sessions in order to complete an award (specifically the Expedition section).***

**Entry levels:** Bronze award-14 years \*, Silver award-15 years, Gold award-16 years of age.

\* However, any student in Year 9 at Tavistock College can register and attend training sessions associated with the scheme.

**Please note:** the Devon Awards office have stated that students must be a minimum of 13 years and 9 months to undertake the bronze practice walk or practice expedition.

The award is open to all young people from the age of 14 (or Year 9) to 25 years and students leaving Tavistock College can continue to participate in the Award through the West Devon Open Award group based in Tavistock or at other registered educational establishments throughout the U.K.

**The following four sections are covered by the Bronze, Silver and Gold programmes:**

- **Volunteering:** Aim; to encourage students to work to support individuals and to the community.
- **Skills:** Aim; to encourage the discovery and development of practical and social skills and personal interests.
- **Physical:** Aim; to encourage participation and improvement in physical activity.
- **Expedition:** Aim; to encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery by preparing for and carrying out an adventurous journey as part of a team [teams must be minimum 4 students, maximum 7 students].

#### **Timescales for the Awards:**

**Bronze:** 3 months in each: Volunteering, Skills, Physical Recreation \* plus a further 3 months in one of these of the students' choice.

The minimum time for each bronze section is 3 months \* during this time students need to undertake a regular commitment averaging at least an hour a week.

**Silver:** 6 months Volunteering, Skills & Physical recreation: one section for 6 months and the other sections for 3 months [direct entrants must undertake a further 6 months in either the volunteering or the longer of the skills or physical recreation sections].

Participants are expected to take responsibility for their own training programme and will be encouraged to continue with the activities beyond the minimum time requirements of the respective Award in order to meet any personal objectives.

**Gold:** covers the same four sections as bronze and silver but for greater time duration and in addition there is a 5<sup>th</sup> residential section where students undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights.

Volunteering-12 months, skills, Physical recreation: one section for 12 months the other 6 months, direct entry students must undertake a further 6 months in either the volunteering or the longer of the skills or physical recreation sections.

## **Expeditions:**

**Bronze:** 2 days [at least 6 hours during the daytime] and 1 night.

**Silver:** 3 days [at least 7 hours during the daytime], 2 nights.

**Gold Expedition:** plan, prepare for and undertake a 4 day 3 night venture.

Please refer to the "The Duke of Edinburgh's Award website" for listings of ideas for each section so please visit their web site: [www.DofE.org](http://www.DofE.org)

All work for the Award is undertaken in the participants own time and is carefully monitored by the operating authority so that while a spirit of adventure is generated all aspects of safety and supervision is covered.

**To begin the Award each student is required to submit a completed registration / parental consent form and to pay a participation fee to the DofE charity, the current costs are: Bronze £21, Silver £21, Gold £28 [registration costs as at 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2018].**

**PAYMENTS CAN BE MADE BY CASH/CHEQUE (made payable to 'The Dartmoor MAT') OR BY THE SCHOOL GATEWAY PROCESS. In addition, the parental consent form needs to be completed and forwarded to: Mr A. Jerrett, Tavistock College, Crowndale Road, Tavistock, Devon. PL19 8DD.**

Student details are sent together with payment for the participation fee to the Devon Awards Office, a student registration number, and eDofE password are then allocated to each student; this identification number should be kept for referral as it will be required each time students 'log on' to the eDofE system on the internet.

**Drop-in/Catch-up sessions** This is an opportunity for students to raise any queries they may have regarding their award and also to add any evidence to their on-line accounts should accessing a computer prove difficult out of school.

**Expedition training sessions** will be held during lunchtimes and after school. Practice walks are normally held during weekends during June and July with practice expeditions during July or September with assessed final expeditions taking place after all the preliminary training has been completed. As part of the ethos of the Award Scheme all students will be expected to take responsibility for ensuring that expedition route cards are submitted on time and that their on-line DofE accounts are kept up-to-date. Students are also expected to arrange equipment and parental transport to and from expedition training locations. Please note that as the final expeditions are often dependant upon the availability of external assessors these dates may be liable to change.

**Further programme details are available from Andy Jerrett (office located opposite H5 within the History corridor).**

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