



Beaumont School

Austen Way St Albans Hertfordshire AL4 0XB t: 01727 854726

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Headteacher: Mr M Atkinson e: head@beaumont.school

23 September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Bronze DofE 2020-21

We are not yet in a position to offer the full Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award to our Year 10 students, as we normally would do. However, we would like to offer a reduced opportunity for students to complete the non-expedition sections, as we wait for more guidance on running expeditions in the future. This would allow them to gain a DofE Certificate of Achievement.

If, in the future, we are able to run safe expeditions, we will offer more information. Your child may instead prefer to sign up for an open expedition if they wish - that is, an expedition run by a company external to Beaumont School. **Please note that Beaumont DofE takes no responsibility for expeditions undertaken by our students unless run by us directly.** There are many companies who run open expeditions. We have worked with one, ActivAdventures (activadventures.com), for many years. Students must only attend open expeditions in their own time and will not be allowed to miss school for these.

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 uni or jobs.

To achieve their Bronze 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.

During and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, participants who complete their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections will also receive a **DofE Certificate of Achievement** – a formal recognition, by the DofE, of their efforts at this extraordinary time.

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 DofE.org/do.

The DofE and COVID-19

As participants can choose and change their activities, they can pick ones that they can do while social distancing or from home. The DofE has provided useful advice





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and information, including activity and volunteering ideas, at DofE.org/DofEWithADifference.

eDofE and the DofE app

Participants can create their DofE programme and record their progress using eDofE, the DofE's digital system, available online at eDofE.org and through the DofE app – downloadable for free from Google Play and the App Store.

If your child decides to enrol, we will set up their eDofE account and they will receive details of how to sign in and get started. We aim to offer advice and support via a dedicated Bronze DofE Google Classroom.

Signing up

The cost of taking part in the DofE is £28 per participant. This covers your child's participation place and Welcome Pack, which will be sent to their home address and includes their personalised DofE Discount Card.

If your child would like to take part, please complete and return the enclosed enrolment form, via this Google Form (<https://forms.gle/XAqmh6iwGRzQQ8WC9>) together with the sum of £28 paid via our online payment system Scopay by Monday 19th October 2020. Please contact the finance department at finance@beaumont.school if you require any assistance with Scopay.

If the cost of taking part is prohibitive, please speak to me or the finance department as there may be financial support available to you.

We will run all training and support on our Bronze DofE Google Classroom, which your child will be invited to join once payment is received. If you would like any further information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me.

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

Yours faithfully,

Ella Dickson
DofE Coordinator

