



Penistone Grammar School

Never Stop Flying

Principal: Mr P Crook (B.Ed Hons)

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Achieving Excellence through a Values Driven Education

Ref: RHU/CWA

Date: 19 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer of [StudentFullName]

I'm delighted to let you know that we are about to launch the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE). I'm the DofE Manager for Penistone Grammar School and wanted to write to let you know more about what's involved.

Why do DofE?

Doing their DofE is a brilliant way for your young person to discover just how much they are capable of. It gives young people the chance to make new friends, follow their passions, learn new skills and make a difference in our community. Achieving a DofE Award is a great way to impress employers too. And it helps young people to see themselves differently and gain a new level of confidence. We always say that after taking on your DofE, you know that whatever life throws at you, you're ready to deal with it.

The DofE is non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities.

How it works

There are three levels of DofE Award – Bronze, Silver and Gold. To achieve their Award, your young person will need to complete four sections – Volunteering, Physical, Skills and the Expedition.

Young people can choose what they would like to do for the first three sections, and we will provide all the guidance and support they need. The Expedition involves spending two days and one night in the countryside. We provide comprehensive training beforehand to ensure everyone is fully prepared and has the best possible experience. If your child is in Y10 this training will be delivered by staff as part of their Cadet evenings, similar to their experience at Bronze. If your child is in Y12 this training will be delivered either on Week A or Week B during their period five enrichment.

Students who have undertaken their Bronze must have this completed before they can embark on their Silver.

Next steps

We hope lots of our young people will take this opportunity to get involved with DofE. The estimated cost is £170 per person. We need an initial deposit of £30.50 (Please make payment via Parentpay) in order to register your child on the DofE system. The subsequent money will be used to cover the other costs of the expedition and will be confirmed once campsites are booked. The remaining balance will need to be paid around Easter time. Practice expedition will take place Friday 17th April – Sunday 19th April and the assessed expedition will take place Friday 12th June – Sunday 14th June.

Your child will need to purchase some good walking boots and be expected to cover their own food costs for the expedition.

I have attached a parent information booklet. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. The DofE website dofe.org - has a lot of useful information too.

Thank you for your support. I hope you'll agree that the DofE is the perfect way for your young person to feel ready for anything.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Hunter
DofE Manager

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