



# St Martin's School

Be the best you can be

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16 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award**

I am pleased to say that your son or daughter is now eligible to sign up for the opportunity to complete the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award at St Martin's School.

The Award has four sections: Physical, Skill, Volunteering, and Expedition. The Duke of Edinburgh Award requires each participant to partake in a physical, skill and voluntary activity for one hour each week for three months. The participant must then complete one of the physical, skill or voluntary activities for a further three months. The expeditions will take place over two weekends.

The DofE scheme is a non-competitive scheme that will give your son or daughter the skills, confidence and a view on life that everyone is looking for from employers, to colleges and universities. Your son or daughter may be doing many of these activities already and the DofE is a way of getting recognition for them. It will also help the students to make a difference to other people's lives and your community, be fitter and healthier, to make new friends, and have memories to last a lifetime. Lastly, it inherently enhances college, UCAS and job application forms. More information can be found on the extensive [DofE website](#).

The cost of the Bronze Award is £98 per pupil. This cost covers the DofE registration fee, training fee and pitch fee's for both the practise and assessed expeditions. This money is required for your son or daughter to complete the award. Please note that the full amount for the course will need to be paid via Parentpay by Friday 1 of March 2024. Failure to make payment by the specified date will result in your son/daughter being removed from the award.

It is imperative that students must also complete the following training dates and two weekend expeditions as mentioned above. The dates for these are listed below:

- First Aid & emergency procedures - (15 Feb 3:30 pm - 5 pm)
- Health and Safety/Risk awareness & Observations - (29 Feb 3:30pm - 5pm)
- Campcraft, Equipment & Hygiene (7 March 3:30pm - 5pm)
- Countryside & Highway code / 20 Conditions (14 March 3:30pm - 5pm)
- Navigation – Session 1 (21 March 3:30pm - 5pm)
- Navigation – Session 2 (28 March 3:30pm - 5pm)
- Route Planning *Session 1* - 18 April 3:30pm - 5pm
- Route Planning *Session 2* - 25 April 3:30pm - 5pm
- Route Planning *Session 3* - 2 May 3:30pm - 5pm



**DISCOVERY**  
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Chief Executive Officer: Mr R Duff  
St Martin's School is proud to be part of the Discovery Educational Trust

- Practice Expedition Preparation & Kit Distribution (9 May 3:30pm - 5pm)
- **Practice expedition** (Skreens Park, Chelmsford) - (11 May 12:00 midday/12 May 3:00pm)
- Assessed Expedition Preparation (06 June 3:30pm - 5pm)
- **Assessment expedition** (Danbury) - (15 June 11:00am/16 June 3:00 pm)

Failure to attend any of the sessions from onwards without valid reasoning, will result in your son/daughter being removed from the award.

The training sessions and route planning will be carried out in school. Transport to and from the expeditions is NOT provided and must be arranged outside of school. The practice expedition will be carried out at [Skreens Park](#) campsite, Chelmsford, and the assessment expedition will take place at [Danbury Outdoors](#), Danbury.

Please note that all students participating the DofE under 'St Martins School' are expected to follow the schools [behaviour policy](#). Failure to follow this policy, will result in student/s being removed from the programme.

More details regarding the expeditions will be provided at a later date. If you have any further questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact me via: [mread@st-martins.essex.sch.uk](mailto:mread@st-martins.essex.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely

Mr M Read  
***Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Co-ordinator***