



**Magna Academy**

**Poole**

an Aspirations Academy

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@MagnaAcademy

15th December 2021



THE DUKE OF  
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Dear Parent/Carer

We are pleased to announce that once again Magna Academy will be offering the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) to students in Years 9 and 10.

DofE is a great opportunity for your child to discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned award.

As Magna's DofE Manager, alongside Mrs Gibbard, I want to inform you of some of the benefits of participating in the DofE programme and what it involves.

### **About the DofE**

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people, it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.

Through their DofE programme, students will make friends, memories and build on traits such as confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can lead to overall improved well-being. They will gain many life skills and important attributes that will benefit them later on in their working life, as well as an improved social circle. The award is recognised by top employers and can help students stand out when applying for further education, university or even future employment.

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 would 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.

## About the expedition

The expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team navigating through two days in the countryside. This would be a day time activity and students will return home in the evening. The dates for this are Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd July 2022.

Day one	Day two
Introduced to the basic expedition principles, map reading, the expedition equipment, team games.	Expedition: 12 kilometres walking through the countryside, setting up camp, cooking a meal and putting up a tent, followed by an expedition debrief.

The programme will be organised by 'Mountain Ash', an accredited company with lots of experience.

There will also be a number of training sessions during Thursday enrichment club where your child and their group will participate in different activities from fire lighting, practice walks to outdoor survival skills. **Participants will only be able to complete their expedition if they attend the organised training.**

## The DofE and COVID-19

Your child can still have the full DofE experience, safely and in line with Government guidance, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The motivation and focus the DofE gives and its positive impact on mental and physical health, can play an important role in helping your child navigate our 'new normal', safely expanding their world and giving them skills and experiences to open doors in the future.

As participants can choose and change their activities, they can select ones that they can do while social distancing or from home. The DofE has provided useful advice and information, including activity and volunteering ideas, at [DofE.org/DofEWithADifference](https://www.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](https://www.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 will also hold an eDofE launch enrichment session on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

## Signing up

**The cost for the programme is £88 per participant.**

This is a breakdown of a £23 signing up fee, which includes your child's place, welcome pack and their personalised DofE Discount Card, plus an expedition cost of £65.

If your child would like to take part, please complete the enrolment form via ParentPay, providing emergency contact details and medical information, together with the deposit sum of **£10 via ParentPay by Wednesday 5th January 2022.**

**Future Payment Schedule is:**

**1st- Deposit- £10 - non-refundable - Wednesday 5th January 2022**

**2nd- Payment- £20 - 1st February 2022**

**3rd- Payment- £20 - 1st March 2022**

**4th- Payment- £20 - 1st April 2022**

**5th- Payment- £18 - 1st May 2022**

If you have not yet activated your ParentPay account and need reminding of your username or activation code, please contact Reception for assistance at: [office@magna-aspirations.org](mailto:office@magna-aspirations.org)

Payments can be made over several instalments, as listed above, or the total amount paid in full, if this is more convenient. However, if payments fall behind the schedule without notification to the academy, we reserve the right to withdraw the student from the trip, without financial compensation following a discussion with yourselves.

We wish to make it clear that no student will be denied participation in an educational visit on the grounds that no contribution has been received on their behalf. If, however, insufficient funds are received, the visit may not be able to take place.

At Magna, we believe all students should have the opportunity to participate in all academy activities. If you wish to apply for further assistance due to economic hardship, please contact the Principal's PA in the strictest confidence [cdodd@magna-aspirations.org](mailto:cdodd@magna-aspirations.org)

If you think your child may now be eligible for subsidy and wish to apply for Pupil Premium/Free School Meals, please refer to our [website](#).

Yours sincerely

*L.Cousins*

Miss Cousins  
Teacher of English



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