



**Magna Academy**

**Poole**

an Aspirations Academy

Principal: Ms N Ullah

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🐦 @MagnaAcademy

6th October 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to offer Silver Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) to our Sixth Form students this year. The DofE is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned award. As Magna Academy's DofE Manager, I wanted to send you some information about what a DofE programme involves, the benefits for your child and how they can sign up.

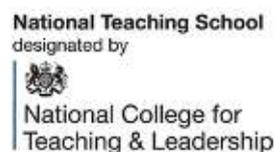
The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. Through their DofE, students will make friends and memories 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 university or jobs.

To achieve their Silver 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.

The Expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, choose a location and do some training to make sure they're fully prepared. They will take part in a training expedition, provided by Mountain Ash, covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment. Mountain Ash provide the majority of the equipment, so students will need the appropriate clothing for a walking expedition and an adequately sized backpack. The qualifying expedition will take place in the summer term and dates for these will follow.

The cost of taking part in the DofE is £279 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. This also includes expedition costs for one training day, one practice expedition and one qualifying expedition.

If your child would like to take part, please complete and return the enrolment form, together with the sum of £24 to Mrs Gibbard by 13<sup>th</sup> October. A digital copy of the form will be sent with this letter



and paper copies can be found by students in tutor trays. The option to pay will be available within ParentPay.

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 [sgudgeon@magna-aspirations.org](mailto:sgudgeon@magna-aspirations.org) .

We wish to make it clear that no student will be denied participation on any 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 possible. Our academy's standards of exemplary conduct are expected whilst students are representing the academy.

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 sincerely,

Kirsty Gibbard

**DofE Manager**

[kgurney@magna-aspirations.org](mailto:kgurney@magna-aspirations.org)