Langley Park School for Girls

Enabling everyone to thrive – acting with kindness, determination and respect.



Headteacher: Mr S Whittle, MA (Cantab), PGCE, NPQH

26 November 2024

Dear Year 9 Families,

I am writing to you about the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award** as we are opening applications to students in Year 9 to express their interest in enrolling.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme is a popular activity at LPGS which takes students on adventures in many walks of life, learning new skills, making and deepening friendships, developing resilience and independence in problem solving and building self-confidence.

Every year, we witness students demonstrating commitment, perseverance and determination as they develop the valuable skills and attributes for further studies and their futures in the world of work. It is for these reasons that a Duke of Edinburgh's Award carries weight on a CV or application form, and students have a wealth of experiences to discuss at interviews and on personal statements.

However, completion of the Award takes time, effort and dedication to ALL sections. Please look at www.dofe.org, as well as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award pages of LPGS Firefly with your child to gain a full understanding of the commitment and cost required to be successful. https://lpgs.fireflycloud.net/duke-of-edinburgh-award

A major part of the Award is the completion and logging of hours in various sections for a minimum of 3 or 6 months: physical, skill and volunteering.

We ask that students:

- Keep accurate and up-to-date records of their time spent on each section
- Log in regularly to their online eDofE accounts to record their evidence
- Keep in touch with their chosen assessors
- Complete at least 2 of their sections before they can join the qualifying expedition in May 2025.
- There will also be fortnightly Firefly tasks to keep students on track, and to prepare them for the expeditions.

Completion of two expeditions, a practice and an assessed qualifying expedition, is a mandatory requirement to complete the full Award at LPGS. These will take place on the following dates:

25 January 2025 Expedition training day in school 9:30am-4.30pm, AND

5 & 6 April 2025 Practice expedition, AND
3 & 4 May 2025 Qualifying expedition

We are unable to offer alternative dates, so please ensure your child can attend before enrolling.

As outlined above, undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is hugely rewarding but also requires high levels of commitment. We are therefore asking students who are interested to complete the following tasks to be considered for enrolment:

- Attend the Duke of Edinburgh presentation after school on Wednesday 27 November, from 3:15pm to 4:15pm, location will be confirmed with students.
- Submit an application form using the following <u>application form link</u>, outlining how they plan to complete the various sections of the course and confirm commitment to the expedition dates (25 January, 5/6 April and 3/5 May 2025).

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Applications should be received **no later than 6 December 2024**. Please be aware there is no set number of places, but the applications should demonstrate a firm understanding of the commitment to all four sections for the duration of the Award, planned to be completed in July/September 2025.

Applications will then be considered, and successful applicants will be sent enrolment details and a consent form for you to sign, including a request for payment of the enrolment fee of £30. Expeditions will be charged at £230 per person, payable on sQuid in the Spring term. Full details of instalments will be forwarded then. If financial means are a concern which may prevent enrolment, there is a small fund available to help students in need, please see our website or further information.

We look forward to welcoming this year's participants to the adventure!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Jane Lawrence LPGS DofE Co-ordinator Mr Nigel Anderson LPGS DofE Co-ordinator