

30th June 2020

RE: Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Dear Parent / Guardian

I am writing to provide an update on your youngster's D of E Award.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate your youngster on completing their skill, volunteering and physical sections of their Award, during the Lockdown. Many learners had to think creatively; adapting their activities to things which could be completed from home. It was great to read of the fantastic activities and achievements that have taken place, whilst I have been approving their Assessor Reports. That's three quarters of the award completed!

2020 Certificate of Achievement:

In recognition of the commitment many young people have put into completing their skill, volunteering and physical sections during the lockdown, D of E have introduced the 2020 Certificate of Achievement. This will be awarded to all young people who have completed these sections during the pandemic. This accolade is also to recognise the achievements of those who may have left or moved schools this year and who may not have the opportunity to complete the expedition section, to achieve the full D of E Award.

I am pleased to confirm that all of our participants have completed their skill, volunteering and physical activities and therefore will all receive the 2020 certificate of achievement.

A copy of the certificate will be emailed to your youngster's registered D of E email address during July. (Direct Entrant Silver participants will receive their certificate in October).

Expeditions

It is clear that expeditions will not be able to take place before the Summer Holidays.

We are closely following advice from the Department of Education and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. As the government guidance changes to allow such activities to take place, and we feel that we are able to run expeditions safely, we will look at rescheduling them.

I know that the postponing of expeditions will come as a disappointment to many of our participants but it will be something to look forward to in the future. We are already working on new risk assessments for expeditions to ensure they will be both a safe and enjoyable experience.

As soon as we have an update on expeditions, we will be in touch to discuss the arrangements in more detail. I would like to reassure you that new expedition dates will be planned to have minimal impact on GCSE studies.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me: awaterhouse@leesbrook.co.uk

Yours faithfully,

Mr A. Waterhouse

D of E Manager