



Friday 26th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm pleased to let you know that your child has been accepted to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) programme. Manor Croft Academy offers the bronze DofE programme to students in Year 9. 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 Manor Croft 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.

About the DofE

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 college, university or jobs.

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'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.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives. For more details about programmes and timescales visit DofE.org/do.

About the expedition

The Expedition section involves your child working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, planning and journeying through their route across several miles, before spending two days and one night in the countryside.

Ahead of this, they will take part in practice sessions and training covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment. There will also be weekly training sessions after school in which your child and their group will plan their route and prepare. Participants will only be able to do their expedition if they attend the organised training and meetings.

The expedition will take place in the summer term, and details about pre-expedition training will follow. If students do not complete set deadlines for their skills, volunteering and physical sections they will not be allowed to take part on the expedition.

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 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 session for the students at a later date.

Signing up

The cost of taking part in the DofE is **£10** enrolment fee for every participant (non-refundable). 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. Please be aware there may be additional costs for the expedition part of the trip such as payment for camping and equipment.

Attendance

The weekly after school sessions are to help and prepare your child to be safe during their expedition. If your child fails to attend a total of 3 after school sessions during the programme, they will be withdrawn from the course.

If your child would like to take part, please complete confirm consent on the MCAS app and paid the £10 enrolment fee by **10/10/2025**.

Poor behaviour by your child could result in them being removed from the scheme. If the Academy deems necessary that your child has to be withdrawn from the Award the enrolment fee is non-refundable.

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 faithfully

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DofE Manager