



The Astley Cooper School

Part of the East Dacorum Co-operative Learning Trust

September 2019

St Agnells Lane, Hemel Hempstead HP2 7HL

Tel: 01442 394 141

Fax: 01442 401 407

Email: admin@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

Web: www.astleycooper.herts.sch.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

Headteacher: Edward Gaynor

RE: Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Award

I am pleased to inform you that The Astley Cooper School will be offering the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award to our Year 10 students. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is viewed very favourably by both universities and employers and helps to demonstrate an additional set of transferrable skills that can be taken into higher education and future careers. The award requires those taking part to complete four sections:

- Skill (learning a skill and developing it at least once a week)
- Physical (participating in a physical activity at least once a week)
- volunteering (being involved in an activity that benefits others once a week)
- Expedition (training and assessed two-day hike with a weekend overnight camp)

Two of these sections must be completed over three months and one over six months. Students will be assisted and monitored with their activities by me, the Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator. However, completion of these sections will primarily be the responsibility of each student.

Completion of the Award also requires commitment from participants to attend on-going training to prepare them for the practice which will take place around May/June time, dates TBC. Qualifying expeditions which will take place around June/July. Dates TBC. All students taking part will be required to attend a weekly session after school on a Monday. The purpose of these sessions is to receive assistance from me in uploading evidence to the student's online Duke of Edinburgh account.

To ensure that all participants receive a quality experience whilst working towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award, places will be limited. If you are interested in this award, we ask that you complete the Student application form so that students are chosen fairly. Please **return the application form to me via your form tutor** by Wednesday 25 September. The quality of the application, attendance and behaviour will be taken into consideration.

There is a charge attached in completing the Award, which will cover registration and other essential items attached to the programme. The initial fee will be **£35.00** and is to be paid once your child's place on the Award has been confirmed. The expeditions are estimated to cost no more than a further **£65.00** as you may need to by hiking boots, waterproof jacket and food for the exhibition. Financial support is available if needed.

Yours sincerely

Miss D. Buzzle
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

