Grant Road Crowthorne
Berkshire RG45 7HZ
01344 772658
secretary@edgbarrowschool.co.uk
www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk

November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S GOLD AWARD - Canoeing**

Thank you for registering your child's interest in completing the Gold DofE Award. We are delighted that so many students are keen to continue their DofE journey to the highest level.

To register your child on the DofE Gold Award, we need an initial deposit payment. Students will be enrolled on to Gold following the deposit payment deadline. They will then see this level added to their account on the eDofE app.

I know many students have already started their sections; evidence can be backdated to the beginning of September (or when they turned 16 if they have completed the relevant sections of their Silver Award). Evidence should be being collected, as a minimum on a log sheet which can be printed from the website (https://www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk/Duke-of-Edinburgh-Award/).

Below are the **Canoeing** expedition dates. All sessions must be attended to complete the award. Expeditions are run and staffed by Action 4 Youth, who we believe are an excellent Approved Activity Provider. At Gold level, Edgbarrow staff are not expected to attend the trips with students.

| **Event** | **Depart** |
|---|---|
| Training / Practice Expedition – Milton Keynes at the Action 4 Youth Activity Centre | Tuesday 6th April (leaving Edgbarrow approx. 8am) – Friday 9th April 2027 (arriving back to Edgbarrow approx. 6pm)<br>2nd week of Easter holidays |
| Assessed Expedition – River Wye, Wales | Monday 19th July (departing Edgbarrow approx. 3pm) – Friday 23rd July (arriving back to Edgbarrow approx. 6pm) |

Travel arrangements to/from the training expedition in Milton Keynes are TBC subject to numbers – we may require some parent transport help and will use the school minibus and an Action 4 Youth minibus.

Travel to/from Wales is included using Action 4 Youth minibuses.

**Payment Process**

- **Deposit (Due 1st December): £100**
- **Balance (Due 1st March 2027): £636 (The final balance will be confirmed once final student numbers have been confirmed)**

£50 of the requested amount covers the DofE enrolment charge and a contribution towards the school DofE Award Licence, which is split between all students completing any award this academic year. The remaining cost is for two canoeing expeditions and covers training, instructors, assessors, group equipment, campsite fees, canoe hire and travel to the assessed trip in Wales. The school also charge an additional 2% for residential trips; this cost is included in the price shown above and covers insurance, trip administration and external verification of risk assessments.

We require the deposit by **1st December 2026**. This will confirm your commitment and place you on the DofE award.

Please use the online payment system to pay for this if possible. If you have not created an account, you should have received a letter with your pupil link code and guidance on creating the account. If you need a copy of this letter or if you would like the payment to be taken from your existing Scopay balance, email finance@edgbarrowschool.co.uk. If you do not use online banking, or prefer to pay by cheque, please would you make the cheque payable to Edgbarrow School and write your child's name and 'Gold Dof E' on the back. For cash, please use a named envelope and return it to Reception.

We are keen to support all pupil participation in school trips and do not wish for any child to be disadvantaged due to financial hardship. Should you have any concerns or queries regarding the payment for this trip, please do not hesitate to contact finance@edgbarrowschool.co.uk. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Please sign the written consent at the end of this letter confirming that you recognise and agree to the financial commitment.

I am always available to support the students if they need any help getting started, need ideas on sections or have any questions about the award. They can find me in The Hive in the main school or can email me at Vicky.rice@edgbarrowschool.co.uk.

Kind Regards

**Vicky Rice**
**Gold DofE Coordinator**
**Edgbarrow School**
Email: Vicky.rice@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

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**Reply Slip: GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD CANOEING**
**Please return to reception by Monday 1st December 2026**

☐ I confirm that my child _____ (participant's name) would like to undertake:

Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award and acknowledge the financial commitment of approximately £736, with an initial deposit of £100 that has been paid through the school internet payment system or by cash or cheque made out to 'Edgbarrow School'

Payment made online* ❑
*Please **do not** return this reply slip until payment has been made online

Cash ❑

Cheque ❑

Use credit previously refunded online ❑

☐ I confirm that my child can attend **all** expedition dates.

Signed : _____ (Parent/Carer)

Name : _____ (Please print) Date: _____