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 - Walking

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

To enable us to register your child with the DofE, we now need you to make the initial deposit payment. Students will be enrolled following the deposit payment deadline and will then receive details about how to access their accounts via their tutors in tutor time.

I know many students have already started their sections; any 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 collected, at 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 **Walking** expedition dates. All sessions must be attended to complete the award. Expeditions are run and staffed by Off Grid Adventures, 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 – Black Mountains, South Wales	Tuesday 6th April (depart morning) – Friday 9th April 2027 (return approx. 6pm)
Assessed Expedition – Brecon Beacons, Wales	Monday 26th July (depart midday) - Friday 30th July 2027 (return approx. 6pm).

The practice expedition is four days, and the assessed expedition includes an assimilation afternoon/evening before the four-day assessment.

Travel to/from the expeditions is the responsibility of the student. Students could travel by train and meet their instructor at the station. Gold students are allowed their phones, and school staff are not expected to accompany them.

Payment Process

- **Deposit (Due 1st December): £100**
- **Balance (Due 1st March 2027): £440 (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, split between all students completing any award this academic year. The remaining cost is for two walking expeditions, which covers training, instructors, assessors, group equipment and campsite fees. 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 make it payable to Edgbarrow School. Write your child's name, tutor group, and 'Gold DofE trip' 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
Silver & Gold DofE Coordinator
Email: Vicky.rice@edgbarrowschool.co.uk

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Reply Slip: GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD WALKING
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 £540, 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 is able to attend **all** expedition dates.

Signed : _____ (Parent/Carer)

Name : _____ (Please print) Date: _____