

Duke of Edinburgh Award at The Observatory School

At The Observatory School, we are proud to offer the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) as part of our commitment to preparing pupils for adulthood and equipping them with the skills they need for future success.

Currently, Year 10 pupils have the opportunity to participate in the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The programme provides pupils with a range of enriching experiences that encourage personal development, resilience, independence and teamwork.

The Bronze Award consists of four key sections:

- **Volunteering** – giving time to help others and support the local community.
- **Physical** – improving fitness, health and wellbeing through regular physical activity.
- **Skills** – developing existing talents or learning new skills and interests.
- **Expedition** – planning, training for and completing a team expedition in the local area.

Through participation in the award, pupils develop confidence, communication skills, leadership qualities and problem-solving abilities. They learn to work collaboratively, overcome challenges and take responsibility for their own progress.

The expedition element is often a highlight for pupils, providing opportunities to navigate, work as a team, camp independently and demonstrate resilience in unfamiliar situations. These experiences help pupils develop essential life skills that will support them in education, employment and adult life.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award aligns closely with our Preparation for Adulthood curriculum and supports pupils in becoming more independent, confident and resilient young people. The programme also promotes our school values of being Safe, Ready and Respectful, encouraging pupils to challenge themselves while celebrating their achievements.

We are incredibly proud of the commitment shown by our Year 10 pupils and look forward to seeing them progress through the Bronze Award and achieve their Duke of Edinburgh certification.