



Arnold

The best in everyone™

A member of United Church Schools Trust

10 Nov 2010

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award

I am delighted to be able to offer students in Year 10 the opportunity to participate in this nationally recognised and extremely worthwhile award scheme.

The Bronze Award consists of four sections:

1) EXPEDITION and FIRST AID

The expedition training programme is offered in conjunction with *Sam Sykes Ltd*, a locally based company. Whilst the staff at Arnold will provide some prior training and preparation in school, the bulk of the outdoor training will be undertaken in one block of three days followed by a separate two day qualifying expedition. There are many benefits to the students in structuring the training programme in this way. For instance:

- The instructors are all trained to at least Mountain Leadership certificate (MLC) standard.
- Group equipment such as stoves and tents is included.
- The training will be condensed into a short but intensive period of time meaning that students will be immersed in the experience and in the expedition skills required.

The total cost of the training and expedition package will be approximately £270 (the final figure is dependent on numbers). The training will take place on 25-27th March 2011 and the qualifying expedition will take place on 14-15th May 2011. Students would need to be available on these dates.

2) COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students undertake voluntary community service, working, for example, in charity shops, in Sunday schools or on conservation projects, for an hour a week.

3) PHYSICAL RECREATION

Students select a sport to pursue.



United Church Schools Trust

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Registered Charity Number: 1016538
Company Number: 2780748

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A proud past and a bright future

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4) SKILL/ HOBBY

Students select a skill or hobby from a comprehensive list. This hobby is to be pursued for an average of an hour a week. Sports do not count as skills; the website DofE.org contains further details.

Of the Community Service, Skill and Physical Recreation sections, one is followed for six months and the other two sections are followed for three months each. One of these may be an activity in which the student already participates but the Award is designed to encourage the students to try out new activities and challenges. Students are expected to show initiative and to take personal responsibility for their Award. All three activities require a qualified assessor to guide and monitor the student's progress.

There is a fee of £12 which covers the registration of the student to the Award, the issue of a record book and administration and insurance costs. This sum will be added to the student's bill once they have registered.

Further information including the arrangements for the expedition training detailed by a representative of the expedition provider will be given at a meeting to be held on **24th November at 6pm in school.**

All participants will be required to attend this first meeting with their parents/ guardians where possible.

The award requires a considerable commitment in terms of time and effort and should not be undertaken lightly. However, there are a great many benefits to be gained from participation and I commend it to you. Please contact me at school if you have any further questions.

Yours faithfully

Miss R. Matheson

Please complete and return by 20th November 2010

Name of Student:

Form.....

I would like my son/daughter to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

To assist in preparations for the meeting on 24th November, please indicate whether you would be able to attend with your son/daughter. Yes/No

Please indicate if disabled access to the presentation might be required Yes/No

All participants will be required to attend.

Parent/Guardian's Signature.....