

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme at Cheltenham College



Bronze Award

This is open to any pupil to start in the Autumn term of the 3rd Form and is completed during the 4th Form. There are 4 sections to the Bronze Award: Expedition, Service, Physical Recreation and Skill. The Bronze Award is separate to the Third Form Challenge programme and requires an additional commitment in terms of keeping a diary of activities and preparing for and completing the two day expedition at the end of the 3rd Form. Mr J Jones has responsibility for running the Bronze Award.

Gold Award

This is open to any pupil to start in the Autumn term of the Lower Sixth. Typically, about half of the Lower Sixth embark on the Gold Award each year. It is possible for members of the 5th Form, once they reach the age of 16, to be enrolled for the Gold Award. It is up to individuals who wish to do this to approach me and I will then get the process going.

As direct entrants to the Gold Award, pupils do not need to have completed any previous level of the Award. The only difference as a direct entrant, is that one of the sections of the Award takes 6 months longer to complete.

There are 5 sections to the Gold Award: Expedition, Service, Physical Recreation, Skill and Residential. The vast majority of pupils will participate in the walking expedition that takes place at the end of the summer term in Snowdonia. There are also more specialist expeditions that will be organised if groups of appropriate size and experience can be formed. In recent years, ski touring, horse riding, canoeing and sailing expeditions have taken place. Cycling is another possibility that I am considering.

The Gold Award can be completed before the end of the Upper Sixth. Although participants have until the age of 26 to complete the Award, there is a much greater chance of doing this if everything is finished whilst still at College.

Sebastian Bullock
Master in charge of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme