

## **Participant Update Letter – 2019/20 Academic Year.**

Dear Parents / Guardians / DofE Participants,

I wrote to you in June detailing the changes we were having to implement as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic. Firstly, I would like to thank you for your patience and support during this difficult, and fast changing time.

I can now confirm that due to ongoing safety concerns, we will not be running catch up expeditions for the 2019/20 Bronze, Silver, and Gold award participants. However, these participants will continue to be supported to complete their other sections (Volunteering, Skills and Physical), which once completed will lead to the awarding of the '2020 Certificate of Achievement' as set out in my previous letter.

Because of the decision to cancel the expedition element of the award for our 2019/20 participants, we will be refunding the expedition element of the fee. The expedition element of the participant fee makes up approximately 60% of the amount participants are charged, therefore we will be refunding this part of the fee in full. Prince Henry's continues to run the DofE programme as a not for profit venture, meaning the money that is not being refunded has already been spent supporting your child's DofE journey. This has covered fees such as participant registration fees to the DofE, centre annual licence fees to the DofE, and staff training fees to ensure all staff are first aid and outdoor education qualified. If you have further questions about how we have calculated this refund amount, please do get in contact with me, and I will be happy to talk this through with you.

Please see below the confirmed amount of money which will be returned to you:

Bronze 2019/20 Participant	£105 (Of the £180 fee)
Silver 2019/20 Participant	£110 (Of the £185 fee)
Gold 2019/20 (Yr 13) Participant	£70 (Of the £120 fee)

*Please note, the Gold 2019/20 (Yr 12) Participant refund of £110 (Of the £185 fee) will be carried over to partially cover the Year 13 expedition element of the award. Therefore prior to the Summer 2021 expeditions, these participants will only be required to pay a small top up payment.*

I would like to emphasise that your child remains enrolled on the DofE programme, and will be supported to complete their 'Certificate of Achievement' at whichever level of the award they enrolled on during the 2019/20 academic year. This being said, participants do have until the age of 25 to complete their awards in full, so in the future they have the option to complete an open expedition, which will upgrade their 'Certificate of Achievement' to the full award. Open expeditions can be found via the following website: <https://www.dofe.org/opportunity-finder/article/open-expeditions-summer-2020/>

These refunds are being processed, and will be automatically returned to you via cheque in due course.

Many thanks once again for your support, please do contact me if you have any questions at all.

Yours Sincerely,

*Tristan Cooper*

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Prince Henry's Duke of Edinburgh Award Manager.  
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