



Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Silver DofE Programme 2019-20

Thank you for your interest in the Silver DofE Programme at The Ridgeway School.

To enrol, please could both you and your son/daughter complete the attached form and give it to Mr Gregory in R25 by Friday 20th September. We have had to roll the Silver DofE programme out to both Y10 and Y11 this year and we are restricted to a maximum of 30 places. As a result of this, places will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis. **Please ensure forms are returned to Mr Gregory promptly to secure a place on the programme.**

Please be aware that the total cost per child for running the Silver DofE programme is £250. We will require a deposit of £50 before enrolment on the programme, which is non-refundable and non-transferable. Please see the proposed payment schedule below.

By completing the enrolment form you are committing to attend the following evening and weekend activities. If students have started the Bronze DofE programme, we require them to have completed their Bronze award before starting on the Silver Programme.

Key dates are:

1. Return enrolment form and information about what you will do to Mr Gregory 20th September 2019.
2. eDofE registration and session outlining plans for volunteering, skills and physical elements Tuesday 1st October 2019 15:20 – 17:00 in P15).
3. Practice Expedition planning w/c 07th October 2019.
4. Practice Expedition to the New Forest 22-24th October 2019.
5. Assessed Expedition Planning; After school 15:30 – 17:00 (Tuesday 20th June 2020)
6. Assessment expedition to Exmoor 20-22nd June 2020.

If your child chooses to accept their place as a participant at The Ridgeway School, payment will be due as follows:

Non-refundable deposit of £50	27 th September
£100 instalment	31 st January
£100 instalment	28 th February

Please note that the expedition dates are non-negotiable, although the planning evening as a team are. Please check any other commitments before signing up to Silver DofE as we are not able to arrange alternative/substitute expeditions.

Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

Petra Houston

Liam Gregory

DofE Manager

DofE Coordinator

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Attachment: Enrolment form and Personal Statement



Silver DofE Programme Information

- A Silver DofE programme has 4 sections, Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition. You need to do at least 6 months Volunteering and a minimum of 6 months on either Physical or Skills and 3 months on the other. It's up to you which one you do for longer.
- If you did Bronze, you can choose the same activity for Silver, but you need to show development in it. It's best to try something new!
- The Expedition section involves planning, training for and doing a 3 day (2 night) expedition.
- If you start your Silver without doing Bronze first you'll have to do an extra 6 months volunteering or doing whichever of the Physical or Skills sections you have spent more time on. Though you can change your mind later, you should decide which section you want to do for longer at the beginning. Knowing how long you're going to do it for will help you to choose your activity and set your goals for each section.
- It will take you at least 6 months for Silver if you've already achieved your Bronze, or 12 months if you've jumped straight into Silver.

Silver (15+ years old)

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
6 months	One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months		Plan, train for and undertake a 3 day, 2 night expedition.
Direct entrants must undertake a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.			

New Forest Expedition

We will travel through iconic landscapes that many students have witnessed before when participating in mountain and forest club. Students will broadly be split into two groups and complete journeys starting from near Ringwood and finishing on the coast. Two night will be spent at campsites to ensure students are well prepared for the wild country of the Emoor expedition.

Exmoor Expedition

Featuring the diverse and wild country of moor and coastal scenery in this national park.

This 3 day expedition will be across Exmoor from SW to NE with the first night being a wildcamp as students make their way across the high moor near Dunkery Beacon. The second night will be on a campsite towards the coast as students make their way off Exmoor itself. The last day will be spent on coastal paths as they move towards Minehead.

