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College  
DUNEDIN NEW ZEALAND

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your son has expressed an interest in the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award Scheme. For those of you who do not know how the Scheme works, I will give you a brief outline below. It is important to look at the [Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award web site](#) as all the information that you need is on their website. All registrations and payments for the Award are now online via the website:

The Bronze Award for your child's age is divided into four sections, all of which must be completed to the required standard before the Award can be presented.

Each section covers a different range of skills and takes varying lengths of time to complete ([click here if you want the online information](#)).

### **1) Voluntary Service**

The aim of the Voluntary Service section is to give useful service to others in the community and to see how your service can make a positive difference. It is designed to improve skills such as teamwork and communication and building self-confidence as a result. By committing to this voluntary service, it is hoped that participants will be introduced to a lifetime role of community involvement and voluntary service. There are plenty of suggestions on what you can do on the website: [Click here](#)

### **2) Skills**

The aim of the Skills section is to improve on an existing skill or learn something new. It is all about giving something a go, learning something, and getting better at it, giving yourself a sense of achievement and well-being as a result. Colleges, Universities, and employers like to see more than your academic record—they want to see that you are a well-rounded individual with life skills too! There are quite literally hundreds that can be chosen, and a list can be found on the website [Click here](#). If you have any issues with choosing an activity for your skill or need to check that it is actually a skill and not an activity that will be under the other sections, please contact Mr Kotkamp. Additionally, I will need to know which knowledgeable non-related adult is going to supervise and assess the skill being undertaken. However, most of this information will be part of your online requirement when registering your chosen activity.

### 3) Physical Recreation

The aim of the Physical Recreation section of the Award is to encourage participants to improve their health and fitness, whatever their starting point. Participants can choose to do a team sport, solo sport, or any healthy activity. It could be something they already do regularly, have tried before, or something completely new. [Click here](#) for examples of things to do.

### 4) Expedition

We do encourage parents if they have the skills to take their son/daughter on a tramp with other students who are doing the Award. However, there needs to be at least four to seven students with at least two adults to supervise the trip. The tramp will need to be 2 day/1-night expedition. This includes sleeping in tents, cooking their own meals, and walking between 20-25kms, with a minimum of 6 hours planned activity. I am happy to advise on possible areas that parents can take groups tramping if they are not sure. All trips need to adhere to school health and safety policy and planning signed off by the school before students will be allowed to go on the trip.

If some students are unable to join a group then there will be an opportunity to go on a tramp run by the school, the area for the 2 day/1-night expedition will depend on the ability of the students.

| Bronze Award     | Service  | Skills  | Physical Recreation   | Adventurous Journey  |
|------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Time Requirement | 3 Months<br>(13 weeks)   | 3 Months<br>(13 weeks)  | 3 Months<br>(13 weeks)  | Preliminary Training   |
|                  | Plus, a further 3 months (6 months or 26 weeks in total) in either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation |   |   | Practice Journeys<br>Qualifying Journey                                |
| Regularity       | At least 1 hour per week (or 4 hours every 28 days) for the number of months chosen                      | At least 1 hour per week (or 4 hours every 28 days) for the number of months chosen | At least 1 hour per week (or 4 hours every 28 days) for the number of months chosen | 2 days, 1 night<br>with two thirds of purposeful effort in journeying. |

#### The process

- Training - all participants need to cover the preliminary training no matter what the venture is. This training will be done at school by Mr Kotkamp.
- Practice Journey - all participants need to undertake the appropriate number of practice journeys. **Experienced parents are most welcome to take groups if they wish and have time.**
- Qualifying Journey – at this stage we will do this journey on our Year 10 Camp at the end of the year. **However, parents are most welcome to take groups out for the qualifying venture - 2 days/1 night, before this camp.**

Participants are expected to supply/borrow the following equipment for the expedition.  
Essential items are:

- Boots or adequate walking shoes
- Waterproofs- rain coat
- Sleeping bag – 3 seasons
- Thermals (which will also include hat gloves)
- Pack - approx. 65litres

However, if there is a problem in acquiring any equipment, we can get hold of a limited number of items.

The cost of doing the Bronze Award is \$86.25 (*which is payable directly to the Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Awards on registration. The easiest way of paying online is via a credit card*) plus any costs associated with the practise tramp, e.g. *Transport, food, hut tickets, etc...*

If you require any additional information, please contact Mr Kotkamp.

Email: [ronny.kotkamp@mcglashan.school.nz](mailto:ronny.kotkamp@mcglashan.school.nz)