

# Malmesbury School

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Headteacher: Brett Jouny

## 2025/26 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme

**DEADLINE TO ENROL: WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2025**

Dear Parent/Carer

We are delighted that your child is interested in joining Malmesbury School's Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme, offered to Year 9 students.

The Bronze DofE Award is a great opportunity available to students to help them grow and develop as young people. The Award has 4 sections:

- Skills
- Volunteering
- Physical
- Expedition (walking)

**BRONZE**

**Volunteering 3 months**

**Physical 3 months**

**Skills 3 months**

**Expedition 2 days 1 night**

*PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.*

The skills, volunteering and physical sections of the Award allow participants to develop current or new interests and help within their community. An activity must be chosen for each of these sections and completed for an hour per week over their chosen time frame.

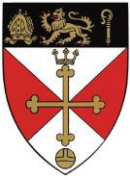
A helpful list of ideas for each section can be found at [www.dofe.org/do/ideas/](http://www.dofe.org/do/ideas/)

We offer an extensive range of extracurricular activities at school which could count towards these three sections.

Students are expected to attend occasional support meetings with our DofE Lead, Jemma Daniels, who also offers a Friday lunchtime drop-in. However, as this is an extracurricular activity, we expect students to organise themselves to ensure the different sections are completed to a good standard and in a timely manner.



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The expedition section is perhaps the most exciting section of the Award and what DofE is best-known for. Going on an expedition gives young people the chance to have an adventure, work as a team and act on their own initiative.

For the fourth year running, Malmesbury School will be working with BXM Expeditions to deliver the expedition section of the Award. They will provide all elements of this section for participants.

### **BXM Expeditions**

BXM was founded in 2010 to help young people access DofE regardless of their geographical location, their background, financial or emotional situation. They value The Duke of Edinburgh's Award for all young people as it helps develop qualities and values that many employers look for – self-discipline, motivation, commitment, determination and many more.

BXM quickly grew to become one of the largest school expedition providers in the UK and now work with over 100 schools and 8000 young people across the country. BXM have implemented industry first processes and procedures including their revolutionary “BXM Hub” system to make the process as seamless as possible.

BXM ensures the kit they provide for young people is the top level available in group kit, placing a custom order each year to ensure that every season starts afresh. BXM's e-Learning platform is available for free to all participants to help them stay current and up to date with their training between in-school training days and their expeditions.

Their ethos remains the same; to provide great value, safe and enjoyable expeditions for all. For further information about BXM please visit [www.bxmoutdoors.com](http://www.bxmoutdoors.com)

### **Dates, locations and kit**

The expedition will take place on the following dates:

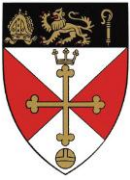
- **Training Day at School: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
It is essential that all participants attend this day as well as the expedition weekends. It is not necessary for them to bring full expedition kit, but we will be outside for part of the day, so they will need to wear clothing that will keep them warm and dry.
- **Practice Expedition: Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
2 day practice expedition. The first day is a combined training/expedition day ensuring groups are ready to be remotely supervised and can camp safely.
- **Assessment Expedition: Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>- Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026**  
2 day assessment expedition with assessors.

Please check dates carefully and put them in your diary.

All expedition locations will be within a 45 minute drive of Malmesbury in the beautiful countryside. Participants will need to make their own travel arrangements and car sharing is recommended.

The training day along with the practice expedition will prepare participants for their assessment expedition where they will be assessed against the DofE 20 Conditions.





BXM instructors will work with participants to ensure they are fully trained and prepared. All staff will do their best to facilitate the success of each of them, but it is important to remember an element of hard work must also come from participants themselves.

BXM Expeditions will provide the following:

- All expeditions & training
- Highly experienced instructors and assessors
- Tents
- Stoves (participants are to provide their own mess tins)
- Gas
- Maps
- Camp fees
- Training resources
- 24hour 0800 support number for parents
- Risk assessments (please note the school also produces its own risk assessments)

Not included:

- Personal kit (kit lists are distributed on the training day or can be found on our website). The school has a limited supply of rucksacks, camp mats and compasses to loan out on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Travel

### **Payments and dates**

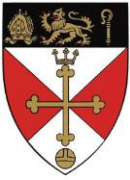
The total cost to complete the Award is **£251.00** to be paid in the following instalments via ParentPay:

- **Payment 1: £42.00**  
Enrolment and license fee to the DofE on or before **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**  
This is non-refundable as, once issued, we are unable to retrieve the eDofE place allocated.
- **Payment 2: £117.00**  
BXM initial payment to be paid on or before **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2025**
- **Payment 3: £92.00**  
BXM balance payment to be paid on or before **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
Plus £4 to cover staff expenses (who attend the expeditions voluntarily in a pastoral role)

If your child is in receipt of free school meals, the school will subsidise 50% of the total payment and this will be reflected in payments 2 and 3 in the amount shown on ParentPay.

If you are experiencing financial hardship, please speak to our finance department in confidence- we may be able to help.





All expeditions are subject to BXM's refund policy which you should read carefully:

*'Refunds are only available for individual drop-outs 6 weeks before any event. If a participant wishes to transfer to an open expedition they will be charged the difference in price between a school and open expedition. If they decide to no longer attend an open expedition no refund will be given'.*

### **How to Enrol**

To enrol your child onto our 2025/26 programme, you will need to complete the following forms and return them to the Finance Office-

- DofE Enrolment form (attached- or collect from Finance Office)
- Expeditions Consent/ Code of Conduct form (attached- or collect from Finance Office)

and

- Log onto ParentPay to add medical and other requested information, confirm your consent and complete the payment

-on or before **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept applications after this date.

If you have any further questions relating to the Award, please contact Malmesbury School's DofE Lead, Jemma Daniels via email: [JDaniels@malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:JDaniels@malmesbury.wilts.sch.uk)

If you wish to speak with BXM Expeditions, please contact 0800 433 2963 or email [parents@bxmoutdoors.com](mailto:parents@bxmoutdoors.com)

We look forward to welcoming participants on their DofE journey, something they will remember for a lifetime.

Best wishes,

Mr Brett Jouney  
Headteacher

