



HENRY KENDALL HIGH SCHOOL

Principal – Andrew Backhouse

The Duke of Edinburgh Award 2016 – Silver Award Information Night Thursday 18 February

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Students

16 February 2016

The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award is available to Year 10 students this year. The award is a self-development program for all young people. The award is non-competitive and encourages young people to set and achieve goals at a level appropriate to their needs.

These provide an opportunity for students to acquire and develop skills, initiative and self-esteem which will help them become more confident members of the community. The scheme is highly regarded by many employers.

The scheme has three Award levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold. Year 10 students may start or continue the Award at Silver level. To obtain the Silver Award students must complete the following sections:

1. **Service** - 1 hour a week of voluntary Community Service spread over 6 months.
2. **Expedition** - complete training and one 3 day practice canoe trip and one 3 day qualifying canoe trip.
3. **Skills** - 1 hour a week over a 6 month period, a cultural or social activity must be pursued leading to a deeper knowledge of the subject and the attainment of a reasonable degree of skill e.g. cooking a variety of meals, playing a musical instrument, reading a variety of genres.
4. **Physical Recreation** - participation in one physical activity for a minimum of 1 hour per week over a 6 month period resulting in some improvement in that activity.

* Any participant who has not completed their Bronze level must select a section of the award which will become their Major. The participant must complete an extra 6 months in this section. All records of activities must be logged online.

For further information go to the NSW website: www.dukeofed.com.au

The cost of the program is \$350.00 per student which pays for insurance, access to the Online Record Book (ORB), and all expenses for both the practice and qualifying canoe.

Additional costs will include train travel, food and equipment purchase (some equipment can be borrowed from school.)

We hope your son or daughter will take advantage of this opportunity to join the scheme. To start the process, please come to the **Parent Information Evening on Thursday 18 February** in the school library from 6.00 – 7.00pm. If you cannot attend the information evening please call Ms Carly Brien or Mr Luke Banks on 43252110.

*** A lunchtime meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 February for successful applicants. Students must attend 2 of the 3 after school sessions for 1 hour on either: 8, 9 or 10 March. After school sessions are essential for students to train in safety, practice camp craft and get to know their group.***

Yours faithfully

Andrew Backhouse
Principal

Luke Banks and Carly Brien
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinators

(This excursion is part of the students' learning program and has the Principal's approval)

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☐ I intend to come to the parent information on Thursday 18 February 2015 at 6.00pm

Student's Name _____

Parent/Guardian of student _____

Note: A package including participant's award plan will be issued at the Parent Information Evening. **Students will need to apply by letter to join the scheme as only 20 places are available.** Letters of application are due Thursday 25 February 2015.