

## Duke of Edinburgh at Hastings

### What is the Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a well-respected and globally recognised award that represents determination, commitment, environmental awareness and displays great teamwork and communication skills.

Students achieve the award through a one-hour weekly commitment to a sport, skill and volunteering role. The award culminates in a two day expedition in which students learn vital skills like mapping, camping and team work.

At Hastings we care about learning. Care about people and Care about the world.

Our vision is to ensure students are equipped to succeed at school, university and in life beyond. We want students to enjoy school, fulfil their academic potential and develop the skills and attributes they will need once they leave education: to work as part of a team, empathise with others, speak multiple languages, think critically and so on.

At Hastings we explicitly design our approach to education to help students develop these attributes and emerge ready to face the next phase of their life with confidence. Therefore, by achieving the Duke of Edinburgh's Award students will only be propelled further along this pathway.

Therefore the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a perfect opportunity for our learners to expand their life experience and enhance their education while building team skills, personal character development all while being in the outdoors.

### Purpose of the award policy at Hastings

- The purpose of the award policy at Hastings is to guide students to enjoy and achieve their Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- The award does not conflict with any other activities or trips in the school and only aims to enhance the learning and life experience of students.

### Award Fundamentals

- Regular participation in activities is required to meet the time requirements of each Award Section and Level
- Focuses on capacity building by encouraging all young Australians to make independent decisions and to negotiate priorities through participation.

- Provides a framework that works with all young people in any conceivable situation. This includes youth at risk, Indigenous youth, new refugees, marginalised youth, young people in regional and remote communities, and young people with disabilities.
- Assists with the provision of social infrastructure in the community and draws together and connects people, institutions and generations with the common purpose of youth development and inclusion.

### Positive Outcomes for Students

- Equipped and empowered to achieve their personal best.
- Learn to take responsibility for their goals and choices.
- Become connected to and actively engaged within their immediate community.
- Make a real difference in society through their positive contributions and involvement.
- Learn to persevere and overcome barriers to success.
- Gain important life skills.
- Increase their career opportunities.

### Sustainability of the Award at Hastings College

#### 1. Reliable Legal Basis

- Internal helpers and staff involved with Duke of Edinburgh are insured by the school.
- For participants under 18, written permission is needed from parents to participate and publication of photographs.
- Participants aged over 18 may grant their own permission.
- All parents that grant permission acknowledge that:
  - The purpose of the award
  - The importance of teamwork during the award
  - Necessity of supervision from a distance during the expedition
  - Use of maps
  - Nature of the training provided by award staff: First aid, navigation, leadership.

#### 2. Solid Organisational foundation.

- The school management supports the Award by being fully informed about the philosophy and implementation of the Award, making adequate budgetary and time commitments for the Award.
- Training and implementation
  - Budget for training to maintain enough Award Team members.
  - Annual Licence Free
  - Set training and adventurous journey days fixed in the school calendar.
- The faculty supports the Award by:
  - Committing to sharing our knowledge, skills, and network relevant to the Award.
  - Actively promoting the Award within the school community.
- The school is committed to having an Award Team with a minimum of 4 members consisting of:
  - 1 Award leader and coordinator.
  - 3 supervisors/assessors

### **3. Efficient Award Team**

- A) The team consists of an Award Leader, coordinator, supervisors, and assessors as well as any additional staff like helpers, parents or community organisations.
- B) One member of staff is the Award co-ordinator and is solely responsible for communication with the Foundation and Senior Management Team of the School.
- C) Management and Team members and Award Leaders not only as Award Leaders but also in the roles of supervisors, Assessor, School Liaison, Parent Liaison, Publicity.
- D) New Award Staff will be solicited, chosen and trained as to maintain a minimum number of members on the Award.

### **4. Wide network of Support**

- A) School-wide opportunities will be created, built up and documented so that a comprehensive list of easily accessible ideas, contacts, opportunities and organisations are readily available for everyone.
- B) School-wide support and participation in the Award will be built and maintained to ensure that the Award is an integral part of School fabric.
- C) Adventurous expeditions will be planned in accordance with school policies and sensibilities with long term goals being to establish a local network to support local training sessions and ventures.
- D) Relationships with community members will be regularly maintained through frequent communication, updates and inclusion Award activities.

### **5. Transparency and Publicity.**

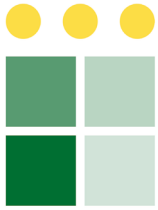
- A) The Award will be advertised on the Hastings School website
- B) Solicitation of new participants will occur no later than September at the beginning of each school year.
- C) All award participants and recipients will be published in the schools network channels including but not limited to: Websites, newsletters and announcements.
- D) Award documents will be kept in a ring bound folder in the staff office.
- E) Annual feedback will be collected from participants, parents and staff involved in the Award.

### **6. Partnership**

- A) Participation in the Award is open to any student/member of Hastings School who meets the age requirements of the Award.
- B) Participation as an Award Leader is open to any Hastings School employee/Staff member who is interested in and willing to participate in/complete training to be able to lead/take part in the Award within the parameters of team size and training requirements.

### **7. Hastings Duke of Edinburgh Awards**

At Hastings, we offer the opportunity for our Y10s to complete the Bronze Award and Y12s to complete the Silver award.



HASTINGS  
SCHOOL



**Voluntary  
Service**



**Physical  
Recreation**



**Skills**



**Adventurous  
Journey**



**Gold  
Residential  
Project**

|   |          |          |          |   |                 |
|---|----------|----------|----------|---|-----------------|
| <b>BRONZE</b>   | 3 months | 3 months | 3 months | 2 days/1 night                                  | N/A             |
| 14+ years   |          |          |          | (1 x practice journey & 1 x qualifying journey) | Gold Level only |
| Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus additional 3 months for a Major Section-either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation * |          |          |          |   |                 |
| <b>SILVER</b>   | 6 months | 6 months | 6 months | 3 days/2 nights                                 | N/A             |
| 15+ years   |          |          |          | (1 x practice journey & 1 x qualifying journey) | Gold Level only |
| Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus additional 6 months of a Major Section if Bronze Award not completed.*                 |          |          |          |   |                 |