Faringdon Community College
Fernham Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7LB

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Studentservices@fcc.cambrianlt.org

www.fccoxon.co.uk

November 2026

The Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am pleased to be able to offer FCC Sixth Form students the opportunity to participate in The Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

At Gold level, students are required to complete 5 sections: volunteering, physical, skill, expedition and a residential activity. More information about the different sections can be found here: https://www.dofe.org/do/sections/ If the Silver Award has not been completed, then students are required to complete an extra 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills section.

Participants will need to find and book their own expeditions. This allows students to select expeditions that fit around their studies and exams. It also opens up other ways of completing the expedition such as canoeing, cycling and horse riding. Participants can use the opportunity finder on the DofE website to search for approved expedition companies (https://www.dofe.org/opportunity-finder/opportunity-for-dofe-participant/?paged=1).

If your child would like to participate in the Gold Award this academic year, please complete the participant enrolment form which can be found here: DofE Gold Award 2026 – Fill in form by **16th November**.

The cost of £40.00 only includes registration with the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Expedition and residential costs vary according to the type and location but are likely to be around £400 for walking expeditions and higher for other expedition activities, such as canoeing. There are some free residential activities such as University taster weeks, however costs for residents vary considerably from around £300 upwards. As there is a considerable cost implication, participants have until they are 25 to complete the award, with many focusing on completing the 4 sections and the expedition during Sixth Form and taking part in a residential activity later.

Payment needs to made before your child's place is confirmed on the Award

Please note that payments are non-refundable.

FCC is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and individuals.
Headteacher: Lisa Barker. Chair of Governors: Paul Ray
Cambrian Learning Trust is registered in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee.
Company Number: 7977368 **Registered Office:** Fernham Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7LB

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PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY CASH AS PAYMENT WILL BE MADE THROUGH YOUR PARENTPAY ACCOUNT. YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED WHEN TO DO THIS THROUGH YOUR ACCOUNT. PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE REGISTERED WITH PARENTPAY AND YOUR DETAILS ARE UP TO DATE.
If your child would like to participate but payment is difficult, there may be the possibility of financial assistance. I may be able to assist with an application to DofE for financial assistance for help towards an expedition if their eligibility criteria are met. If you are interested in applying for financial support, please contact me before the deadline. Please do not delay your response because of funding concerns.

If you have any questions regarding The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, please do not hesitate to make contact via doe@fcc.cambrianlt.org

Yours faithfully

Ms D Timpson
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Manager

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