

Dear Parents and Students, 6th September 2016

ISB is pleased to announce that the Duke of Edinburgh’s (DofE) Award will be offered at the Gold Level to those students who have completed the Silver and/or the Bronze Level Award. Students who choose to participate in this program are making a commitment that will continue through last two school years. The expectations for the Gold Award are much greater than the Silver & the Bronze. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. A 12 month/1-hour per week commitment to service, skill & physical recreation;
2. If a participant is coming directly from the Bronze Award they must add an extra 6-month/1-hour per week to one of the components – service, skill or physical recreation;
3. There is an adventurous journey (4D/3N for the “practice” journey and 4D/3N for the “qualifying” journey);
4. There is also a “purposeful” experience a minimum 5D/4N Residential trip, with people who are not your usual companions, working towards a common goal.

Due to the nature of the adventurous journey and the residential trip, **students and parents will be required to pay for the entire cost for the Gold Award**.

**What will it mean for my child?**

This is an individual or small group (4 – 7) experience. The students will be required:

* To meet once a month during lunchtime;
* Work with the DofE Gold Coordinator to:
	+ Assist with the development of their goals;
	+ Help monitor their progress;
	+ Ensure they record and maintain their Online Record Book (ORB);
* Plan, develop and pay for all aspects of the Adventurous Journey.

Participants will continue to find that the Award is just an extension of many aspects that they already participate in at ISB. Due to the nature of the Gold Award, participants will be working (mostly) independently during the course of the Award.

## What will the participant get from the Award?

* Increased self-confidence and motivation
* The ability to set and achieve major goals
* Meaningful and personal experiences in learning, exercise, service and adventure
* Competence and independence in journeying in the wilderness

If you have questions about the award or about ISB’s plans for implementation of it this year, please contact Mr. Darren Smyth, the Gold Award Coordinator, by email at dsmyth@isb.bj.edu.cn or by phone at school on 8149-2345 (Ext. 2114)

Sincerely,

Mr. David Munro

**Student Application for the Gold Award of the DofE Award at ISB**

Please complete, and return this document to the DofE Gold Award basket in the HS office by 4pm on Friday, 16th September to be considered for the Gold Award Program at ISB.

The following criteria will be used to select the participant:

1. Students that have already completed the Silver Award or moving directly from Bronze into the Gold, but must be 16+ years old to do so.
2. Student’s ability to be **highly organized** and **focused** on the end goal.
3. Teacher and counselor comments regarding self-motivation and responsibility.

**Name: Grade:**

1. Have you completed the Bronze and Silver Awards or just the Bronze? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Are all your documents and reports completed and uploaded to the ORB? Yes or No
	1. If No, what documents still need uploading (i.e. Skills report)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	2. In No, how many hours do you still need to complete for which activity(s) (i.e. still have 10 hour for Service.)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Please describe why you want to be a part of the DofE Gold Award Program. (Please limit your answers to 100 words or less)
4. Please provide specifics about your service, sports and a new skill. (Remember that you must do 12 months in all 3 areas for the Gold Award)

Service:

Skill:

Physical Recreation:

1. Please describe your level of interest in and time available for planning the practice and adventurous journey.
2. If there is a location(s) or mode(s) of travel, that you would like to consider, please mention it here.
3. What initial idea(s) for the Residential experience do you have?

**Parent Signature**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student email address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_