

Dear Parents and Students, 6th September 2016

ISB is pleased to announce that the Duke of Edinburgh’s (DofE) International Award Program will be offered at the Silver Level this year. In order to develop a complete program that meets the highest international standards for Adventurous Journey programming, ISB is partnering with The Hutong – a progressive Outdoor company here in Beijing. Students who choose to participate in this program are making a commitment to participate through to the end of the school year with a lunchtime meeting each month. The expectations for the Silver Award are that there is a 6-month/1-hour per week commitment for each of the three Silver Award components – service, skill and physical recreation. The adventurous journey is (3D/2N for the “practice” journey and 3D/2N for the “qualifying” journey) to be undertaken during the year.

Due to the nature and timing of the adventurous journey, **students (parents) are required to pay for the entire cost of participating in the Silver Award**.

**What is the Award?**

The DofE’s Award empowers young people, ages 14 to 24, to make a difference in their own lives and the lives of others, by exploring their potential, taking on new challenges, giving back to their community, and achieving success. It provides the opportunity to set goals and achieve results in fun and challenging ways. The Award is accessible to all youth, regardless of socioeconomic status, ability, ethnicity, or gender. Please visit the DofE website to learn more. (<http://www.intaward.org>)

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

We are planning to select a gender-balanced group of students. The students will be required to meet once a month during lunchtime. Students will work with their DofE leader to set their goals, monitor their progress, record their advancement and take a larger role in planning certain elements of the Adventurous Journey. The participants will find that many parts of the Award complement what they may already be doing at ISB. Students who are already active in service, sport, or in learning new skills will find it easier to achieve the requirements of the program, though any dedicated student can be successful.

## What will my teen get from the Award?

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

If you have questions about ISB’s plans for implementation of the Award this year, please contact Ms. Helen Dunning who is our Silver Award Coordinator by email at hdunning@isb.bj.edu.cn or by phone at school on 8149-2345

This program can make a big impact on the students of ISB and we look forward to seeing it grow.

Sincerely,

Mr. David Munro

**Student Application for the Silver DofE Award at ISB**

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

The following criteria will be used to select the groups.

1. Gender balance
2. Students already actively participating in two or more of the areas (service, skills, physical recreation)
3. Student’s willingness and readiness for the high adventure requirement.
4. Teacher and counselor comments regarding self-motivation and responsibility.

**Name: Grade: Are you 15+ years old? \_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. Have you completed and received your Bronze Award? Yes or No
	1. If No, what documents do you still have to complete (i.e. ORB signed report for Skills)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	2. If No, how long until you complete the required logged hours (i.e. 4 hours for my Physical)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Please describe why you want to be a part of the DofE Silver Award Program. (Please limit your answers to 100 words or less)
3. Please list the activities you are or may be participating in this school year. Please provide specifics about your

1) school service clubs and/or other community service activities:

2) school sports and/or other physical recreation activities:

3) school performing and/or visual arts and/or any other activities where you could be learning or further developing a skill or a talent:

1. Describe any prior expeditionary experience you have had (other than the Bronze Level Backpacking trip, if you did the Bronze Award.):

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