



THE PORTSMOUTH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Headmaster: James Priory MA

26 September 2011

To: All Year 12 Pupils

Dear Pupils

The Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award at PGS

During your Sixth Form you are eligible to take part in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Gold Level. This is a very worthwhile award which will enhance your UCAS reference and you have until you are 25 to complete it, so it can be continued at University.

There are five sections to complete: Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and Residential. This last section is the main difference at Gold, staying away from home for five days and four nights doing a shared activity with people you don't know. This is good fun and a chance to do something different! If you have jumped straight into your Gold D of E programme you'll need to do a further six months on either volunteering or whichever one of your physical or skills activities you spent most time on.

You will need to be self motivated and proactive to complete the Gold Award. Indeed one of the principle tenets of D of E is self-reliance. It is therefore important that you should expect to work to achieve your own goals. In addition, any research or planning is your responsibility. Activities should be chosen to provide a challenge and represent a broad a range as possible. Further information can be found at www.dofe.org.

Volunteering	Physical / Skills	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months		Plan, train for and complete a 4 day, 3 night expedition	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights
Direct entrants (have not completed Silver D of E) must undertake a further 6 months in the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections				

High Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 2LN Telephone 023 9236 0036 Fax 023 9236 4256
Email info@pgs.org.uk Website www.pgs.org.uk

Founded by William Smith MD, 1732

Registered with limited liability in England and Wales No. 3401010 Registered as a charity No. 1063732

I am able to assist you with the expedition section which consists of training and an assessed expedition, both conducted in the Peak District. There will be an opportunity in **April 2012** for training element and **August 2012** for assessed expedition.

If you would like to take part the first stage is to complete the attached participants' enrolment form and return it to me with a cheque for £20 payable to "Portsmouth City Council", who is our D of E operating authority. You need to complete your home address and your e D of E log in will be e mailed to you so ensure you write clearly. **The closing date for applications is Friday 7 October 2011.**

Yours sincerely

Mr J P Baker TD
Head of Outdoor Pursuits

High Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 2LN Telephone 023 9236 0036 Fax 023 9236 4256
Email info@pgs.org.uk Website www.pgs.org.uk

Founded by William Smith MD, 1732

Registered with limited liability in England and Wales No. 3401010 Registered as a charity No. 1063732