



# ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE

A Jesuit School for Boys • Founded 1879

## Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Framework





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## Overview:

The Award is comprised of three levels and four sections.

Participants complete all four Sections at each level in order to achieve either their Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. At Gold level, Participants also complete a Residential Project.

- Three Levels**

**Bronze**

**Silver**

**Gold**



- Sections**

Four Sections for Bronze and Silver, five Sections for Gold (none more important than another):



**Service**



**Physical Recreation**



**Skill**



**Adventurous Journey**



**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.*					
<b>GOLD</b>					
	12 months	12 months	12 months	4 days/3 nights	5 days/4 nights
16+ years				(1 x practice journey & 1 x qualifying journey)	
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus additional 6 months of a Major Section if Silver Award not completed.*					



### **Service**

The Service Section of the Award encourages young people to volunteer their time to and understand the benefits of this service to their community. To connect with your community and give service to others and their communities. [Read more](#)



### **Physical Recreation**

The Physical Recreation Section of the Award encourages young people to participate in sport and other physical recreation for the improvement of health, wellbeing and fitness. [Read more](#)



### **Skills**

The Skills Section of the Award encourages the development of personal interests and practical and social skills. [Read more](#)



### **Adventurous Journey**

The Adventurous Journey Section encourages a sense of adventure whilst undertaking a team journey or expedition. As part of a small team, participants will plan, train for and undertake a journey with a defined purpose in an unfamiliar environment. [Read more](#)

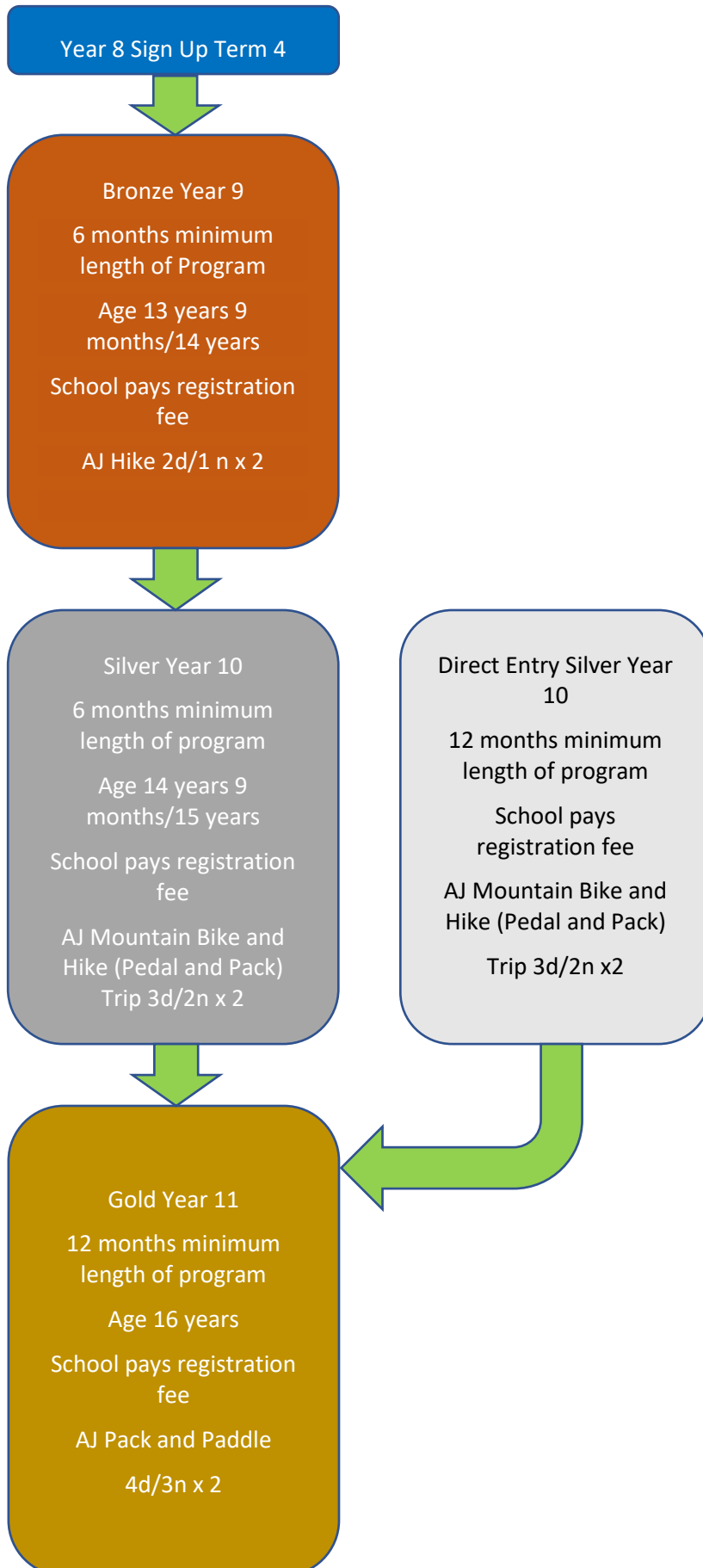


### **Residential Project (Gold only)**

The Residential Project, completed only at Gold level, aims to broaden Participants' horizons through involvement with others in a residential setting. [Read More](#)



## Three Tiered Award Structure





## **Reasoning for Three Tiered Program**

1. Logical sequence matrix development for sections Physical Recreation, Service, Skill and Residential Project (Gold only).
2. The Adventure Journey (AJ) emphasizes personal growth and independent development of life skills through the outdoor learning environment.
3. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Handbook outlines the following benefits and outcomes achieved through the AJ:

General benefits of the Adventurous Journey section	Specific outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working as part of a team</li> <li>• Understanding group dynamics, the participant's own role and the role of others in a team</li> <li>• Enhancing leadership skills</li> <li>• Improving planning and organisational ability, and attention to detail</li> <li>• Learning to make real decisions and accept real consequences</li> <li>• Obtaining a sense of achievement and satisfaction by overcoming challenges and obstacles</li> <li>• Developing self-reliance and independence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confidence</li> <li>• Managing feelings</li> <li>• Resilience and determination</li> <li>• Relationships and leadership</li> <li>• Planning and problem solving</li> <li>• Intercultural competence</li> <li>• Personal and social well-being</li> <li>• Communication</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing health and fitness</li> <li>• Experiencing and appreciating the outdoor environment</li> <li>• Gaining the appropriate knowledge and skills to journey safely in that environment</li> <li>• Exercising imagination and creativity by choosing their own journey</li> <li>• Improving their investigating, reviewing and presentational skills</li> </ul>	

See Handbook, Chapter 8 - <https://dukeofed.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/FINAL-2018-Low-Res-1-1.pdf>

4. OEG has a matrix of skill development built into their AJ program. The company has an expectation about the skill level and the abilities of each participant coming in to each sequential tier.
5. AJ Skills-navigation, leadership, team work, bush craft, ecology, conservation of the natural environment and learning about self and how to cope with challenges on the journey – terrain, group moral, team work, self-discovery. This is a perfect fit with the school philosophy to seek the *Magis*.



### Comment from Martin Lobo at end of July AJ:

*"The four-day D of E expedition in the Blue Mountains with the Silver and Gold award participants was an amazing experience. Exhausting and challenging, yes, but exhilarating and enjoyable it certainly was. I was proud of the Aloys gentlemen who at all times displayed a spirit of fun and adventure and resilience in the midst of challenge and difficulty. I found Tom, one of the two OEG instructors to be inspirational in the way he interacted with our boys. The physical exertion the boys and I experienced was just a small part of the four-day experience when you consider how well the OEG instructors were able to draw upon and share with us effectively their knowledge and experience of ecology and the natural environment and their passion for sustainability. The most impressive aspect of the adventure was the emphasis that was placed on teamwork, planning, reflective practices and constructive feedback to each other within the team. I saw Ignatian pedagogy in action throughout the four days"*

6. Build fitness for purpose through the Award structure.
7. Due to circumstances a student may enter the School Award at Silver. Their Award minimum length is 12 months.
8. Gold pinnacle Adventure experience.
9. Sequencing of AJ experience Bushwalk → Mountain Bike Pedal and Pack Trip → Pack and Paddle.
10. Gold Program is 12 months and can be completed in Year 11.

### **Exemptions to this Policy**

These exemptions may allow a boy to be a direct entrant to the Silver Award.

1. Unforeseen pastoral/health episode resulting in an inability to complete Bronze during the allocated time period in Year 9.
2. A NSW State Award Office administrative /or St Aloysius Award Leader oversight resulting in delayed processing of relevant paperwork for a Bronze Award level in the time framework. The result, a participant can enter the program at the Silver Tier.
3. Complications resulting from an inability to source a safe and appropriate Assessor for one of the Bronze sections of the Award "Physical Recreation", "Service", "Skill", or "Adventure Journey" causing a delay in Bronze Award completion.
4. If a student believes they should be exempted from doing Silver and going directly into the Gold Program they will have to discuss their situation with the Director of Co-Curricula and/or the Principal.

### **Transition to an Open Award**

#### **Assistance for boys who have completed Year 12 but have not completed their Gold Award Program**

The School is unable to carry insurance for the Award Leader to assist past students to complete their Awards after they leave school. Therefore, the SAC Award Leader will facilitate the transition of the Gold participant to an Open Award at the end of their final year at the College.





