



25th May 2016

Dear Parents,

Re: Hong Kong Award for Young People – Gold Award

Your son/daughter has expressed an interest in participating in the Hong Kong Award for Young People Scheme. Before your child enters into any commitment, I would like to explain what the Scheme involves.

Several years ago, the Duke of Edinburgh introduced the Scheme throughout the Commonwealth to help stimulate the enthusiasm and energies of young people by presenting them with a challenging programme of leisure and community service activities. The AYP Scheme, which is in place in several countries throughout the world, also hopes to encourage qualities of maturity and responsibility among young people between the ages of fourteen and twenty five.

There are three separate awards: Bronze, Silver and Gold. Your son/daughter has enrolled in the Gold Award. For each Award, the participant has to fulfil the requirements of each of the four sections of the Scheme. These sections are:

Service	Community service which focuses on a clearly identifiable group or project with the aim of meeting a clear need.
Expeditions	Training walks and camps (for Gold, this involves a total of three-3 day expeditions in the Autumn Term and a final expedition abroad in June)
Skills	A new hobby or interest with specific related skills is developed
Physical activity	A challenging commitment to a sport or activity; e.g., athletics, cycling, hockey, etc.
Residential	A one week residential project.

(more details about each aspect of the scheme can be found on the AYP website at <http://www.ayp.org.hk/eng/scheme.htm>)

The Scheme relies heavily upon the involvement of adult helpers so that the participants follow their chosen activity largely in their own time, with the guidance of somebody knowledgeable about the subject. This involves teachers as well as parents and other people in the local community. The full programme is explained in the Scheme handbook, which is available in the library or by visiting the HKAYP website at <http://www.ayp.org.hk>.

The Award group at Sha Tin College is not intended as a normal school activity or club that can be joined and dropped out of as time passes and interests wane. We anticipate that all students who purchase a record book will be committed to finishing all aspects of the Award. It reflects a very high level of commitment and is an excellent achievement for those students who complete it. In fact, some universities give very significant, formal recognition for this award.

Record books, maps, tents, cooking equipment and gas stoves are provided by the school, but any damage beyond normal 'wear and tear' will be charged to the student. It is necessary that students provide some of their own equipment for the expeditions. The most important personal items are a pair of good walking shoes, a sleeping bag, a waterproof jacket, a suitable rucksack/backpack and a good quality compass.

In addition, students will go on a final, one week adventurous expedition into a mountainous region of Asia after the completion of their IB exams in Year 13. The cost for this is likely to be in the region of \$10000, all inclusive.



This will be the climax of the award and of their time in Sha Tin College. It should be a memorable end to their time in school before they go to university or other pursuits

If you wish to support your son's/ daughter's participation in the scheme, please complete the form below and return it to me as soon as possible along with a cheque for \$500 as a firm commitment to the June expedition. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Taylor
HKAYP Award Supervisor

-----THE HONG KONG AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE -----

I support the wish of my son/daughter to participate in the Scheme and join the HKAYP Award group.

Name of Student: Form.....

Date of birth..... HKID

Emergency contact numbers:

Home.....

Mobile.....

Signature Date.....

Enclose \$500 cheque payment towards the cost of stoves, gas and tents and as deposit for final expedition June 2017

