

The DCPS Award



Introduction

Following the success during lockdown, The DCPS Award is now being relaunched as a permanent feature within our co-curricular program. We have updated the Gold, Silver and Bronze award levels with exciting new categories.

The Aim is to provide DCPS pupils with extra stimulation in all the spheres of school life, helping children to take charge of their learning, their creativity and their place in the wider community.

Whilst not compulsory, the Award scheme is strongly encouraged as an optional extension for all pupils

A range of activities, some academic, some create, some more values-based, will be provided for children to work on and recorded in their own portfolios.

The Award scheme is open to all children from Years 3-8 and will lead to the presentation of either Bronze, silver or Gold Award, depending on the activities and level of challenge.

Portfolios of Evidence

Children can create a paper-based (Scrapbook, journal or diary of achievements or digital portfolio Website, PowerPoint or e-booklet) to provide the evidence for their award.



How to complete an award



The Bronze and Silver Awards are open to Years 3-5 (Bronze to be completed before moving onto Silver)

- To receive the Bronze award, pupils need to complete FOUR Bronze level activities.
- Evidence of a completed activity must be shown/sent to a pupils' tutor/form teacher, who will authorise it being completed to a satisfactory standard.
- When all four activities are completed, pupils need to choose one activity they enjoyed working on and present this to the DCPS Award organiser.

The Silver and Gold Awards are for Years 6-8 (Silver to be completed before moving onto Gold)

- To receive the Silver award, pupils need to complete SIX Silver level activities.
- To receive the Gold award, pupils need to complete EIGHT Gold level activities.
- Evidence of a completed activity must be shown/sent to a pupils' tutor/form teacher, who will authorise it being completed to a satisfactory standard.
- When the specified number of activities are completed, pupils need to choose one activity they enjoyed working on and present this to the DCPS Award organiser.

Awards

Trophies and Certificates will be presented in a Headmaster's Assembly and the highest achievers may even be awarded on Speech Day.



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Bronze

Silver

Gold

The DCPS Award



DEAN CLOSE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
CHELTENHAM

Bronze Award

Reading

Create a reading journal and keep a record of the books you read for pleasure during a half term at school and the holiday that follows. From this list, write a full book review for one of them. Choose a character from this book, draw and colour a picture of them as you imagine them to be and list at least five features of their character around it, as given in the text.

Touch typing skills

Complete stages 1,2 and 3 of DanceMat Typing. Play at least one of the typing games to practice your skills and complete the typing test. Evidence must include the results from your best typing test score.

Performing Arts

Make up a dance routine to accompany a piece of music of your choice and perform it to an audience OR create a video to accompany the music that reflects how you feel when listening to it.

Service to others

Identify and discuss with an adult at home a new responsibility or job you can regularly undertake each week. It must be something that needs to be done at least twice each week. Complete three weeks of service. There are lots of local charities set up to help people who struggle with different aspects of life. 'Foodbank' collects donations of food from people who have enough and share it with those who are in need. Design and draw a new logo for Cheltenham Foodbank and include a strapline to go with it.

Values award

Choose one of the Foundation stones (love, contribution, courage or flourishing) and write a poem about it (at least 10 lines in length), which explains to others your experience of the value and why it is important to you. Design and draw a border around the finished piece, to make it eye-catching when displayed.

Art and engineering

Teach yourself to draw a cartoon character. Make up some new characters of your own and draw a short cartoonstrip (five frames long) using them. OR, design and make a bridge that can span at least 50cm and is made from recyclable materials. Photograph the various stages of construction to share in a short presentation.

Creative writing

Keep a diary for two weeks. In it include details of things (some new) that you've done, how you've spent your time and your feelings during this period.

Technology

Create a 3 (or more) page website using Google Slides about a topic that you are interested in. Use a combination of images, text and video to present your information.

<https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-2021-technology/>

Gardening

Learn about leafmould and how to compost leaves. Collect up fallen leaves in your garden and follow the instructions below to make leafmould for your vegetable patch or flower borders. <https://grovesnurseries.co.uk/articles/makeleafmould> Take photos of what you have done and create a short presentation to share.

Forest School

Spend some time watching and listening to the birds that visit your garden or a local outdoor space. Try to identify at least four birds and learn their names. Learn about what they like to eat, where they nest, how many eggs they lay and any extra interesting facts. Create a Google Slides or PowerPoint presentation to share your new knowledge with others.

Cookery

Prepare and make breakfast for another member of your household. The menu should include one item that is hot which needs a knife and fork to eat it and a hot drink. Try to use the opportunity to learn how to make something new. All clearing away and washing up must also be completed. This activity must be completed twice.

Entertainment

Learn two new magic tricks and three new jokes and perform them to your household OR learn a new card game and teach it to at least three other people (this can be done as a group).

Digital Media

Record and edit an interview with a person of interest (someone out of school, not necessarily famous!). The interview can be made using video or audio and should combine at least one sound from another source e.g. music. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-2021-digital-media/>

Service to school

Complete three options from the following four activities: Collect at least FIVE Golden Credits. Join the School Council for a year. Offer to keep the balls used by your bubble tidy at the end of each break time for two weeks and prove that you have done this. Help to keep your classroom tidy for two weeks so that your teacher notices and will agree that you have completed this act of service.

Great Lives

Choose a historical figure from the 20th century who achieved something for the first time e.g man walking on the moon. Research this person and find out what motivated them, who inspired them, how they prepared for the challenge and what their achievement has meant for us now. Prepare a short talk about your chosen person to share with a small audience (in a House assembly, form time)

Entrepreneurship

Think of a fundraising idea that could be used in school (possibly for a stall at the Charity Fair). Do some market research. Design a poster and draw a plan of your stall. Make a shopping list and add up the costs. Present your idea and planning in a presentation.

Caring for animals

Take care of an animal/pet for 3 weeks. Keep a record of what you have done each day to keep your animal/pet safe and healthy. This record needs to be clearly set out so that you could inform someone else about the commitment needed to have an animal /pet like yours (costs, time needed, space, equipment). Make something to keep your animal/pet entertained while you are at school and show how this was enjoyed.

Textiles

Make a sock doughnut. Cut the toe end off a sock and roll up tightly into a ring. Cut a piece of felt to make the icing and stitch on. Add beads or stitching as sprinkle details.

First Aid

Create a poster or PowerPoint presentation to explain how to: a) put someone in the recovery position and when this might be needed or, b) what you might need to include in a First Aid kit to take on a seaside holiday, explaining why each item has been selected. Choose TWO different scenarios from the list found via the link and research the First Aid emergency situation. St John Ambulance and British Red Cross are useful websites to use for this. Create a video or PowerPoint demonstration to describe how you should manage the situation safely. In every situation, you would always call for help or ask an adult, but try and think about what you would do if you were making the decisions on your own. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-award-2021-first-aid/>

Silver Award

Reading

Create a reading journal and keep a record of the books you read for pleasure during a half term at school and the holiday that follows. From this list, write a full book review for two of these books. Identify your favourite character in one of these books and use the criteria used in Hermes (the article that finds out interesting facts about members of DCPS) to find out more about this character (at least six different questions need to be asked). Set your questions and answers out in the same way as seen in Hermes.

Touch typing skills

Complete stages 1 -6 of DanceMat Typing. Play at least one of the typing games to practice your skills and complete the typing test. Evidence must include the results from your best typing test score.

Performing Arts

Create and write a short rap about one of the Foundation values and record it OR write an advert for a new type of crisp/snack and perform it to an audience.

Service to others

Commit to contacting an elderly relative or family friend each week for a chat, either by phone, Zoom or letter. Complete three weeks of service. Find out about a local charity that serves others in your community. Who do they offer help to? How can volunteers help? Design a leaflet that could be delivered in your community/neighbourhood to encourage others to help those being served by this charity.

Values award

Design four separate resources that can be used on noticeboards around school to promote the Foundation stones (love, contribution, courage or flourishing). These might include a poster, but also flags, postcards or stickers. Be imaginative - these don't exist already - your ideas may be used!

Art and engineering

Choose a children's illustrator you admire and find out more about them e.g. their training, childhood, hobbies. Present this information in a Google slides/PowerPoint presentation. OR draw a floorplan of your dream home.

Digital Media

Design a working and original computer game using a game design package such as Scratch Kodu or GameFroot. Create a poster or promo video to promote your game. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-2021-digital-media/>

Creative writing

Choose a well-known fairytale and rewrite it from the perspective of one of the characters e.g Goldilocks and the Three Bears, told from the perspective of Baby Bear.

Technology

Invent an app that makes the world a better place.Think of an app that helps people in their lives or solves a problem. Draw out designs for the UI (user interface) and think about how the app would work, showing this in a flowchart or pseudocode. Use the link given here for further details.

<https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-2021-technology/>

Gardening

Choose three different vegetables you could grow over the winter months, either in pots or your vegetable patch. Prepare the site or pots and plant the seeds/plugs. Keep a photo diary to show how they grow and what you need to do to help them stay healthy.

Forest School

Using natural resources, create an outdoor piece of art that captures some of the colours of the season within the landscape.Look at the work of Andy Goldsworthy for inspiration, noting how his shapes and sculptures fit within the environment they are situated.

Classic novel reading

<https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-silver-award-classic-novel-reading-list/>

Cookery

Plan and prepare a hot and cold pudding for your household. Both dishes should be new recipes for you to follow and one must include fresh fruit.All clearing away and washing up must also be completed.

Entrepreneurship

Think of a gap in the market and create a new product or business. This could be something completely new (an invention) or something local we don't have yet. Do some market research to find out if the idea will be popular. Design a logo and strapline for your business and add a sketch of the product to your presentation (the digital tool Google Sketch-Up may be useful for this), imagining that the next step is to go to the Dragon's Den!

Entertainment

Learn a new board game and play it more than once. Research and investigate other board games you might like to play, identifying one that you might ask for as a present.

Service to school

Complete three options from the following four activities:Collect at least SEVEN Golden Credits. Join the Eco Committee for a term. If you are a boarder, volunteer to organise an activity for others over a weekend. Help to keep your classroom tidy for two weeks (especially at the end of the day) so that your teacher notices.

Great Lives

Choose a historical figure who lived locally and has a blue plaque on a building in Cheltenham to celebrate them. Find out more about their life and what they are now famous for. Prepare a short talk with Google Slides/PowerPoint (at least six slides) to share with your tutor group or class.

Caring for animals

Take care of an animal/pet for 4 weeks. Keep a record of what you have done each day to keep your animal/pet safe and healthy. This record needs to be clearly set out so that you could inform someone else about the commitment needed to have an animal /pet like yours (costs, time needed, space, equipment). Choose an animal charity and find out about its work. Help support its work, for example by joining a sponsored event.

Textiles

Take an old piece of clothing and revamp it. For example, use an old T-shirt and cut the sleeves off and add new ones. Or, cut trousers off into shorts and add some patches. Or, cut holes in a T-shirt and add a layer of fabric underneath, to be seen through the holes. Or, make a top into a skirt, a pair of trousers into a skirt or use an old pocket to make a bag. Think creatively to make something new from something old! Record your design and plan in PowerPoint/Slides and take photos of the different stages of your project, to be able to present on completion.

First Aid

Create a poster or PowerPoint presentation to explain how to: a) treat a burn or scold or, b) what you might need to include in a First Aid kit to take on a day's hike in the mountains, explaining why each item has been selected. Choose TWO different scenarios from the list found via the link and research the First Aid emergency situation. St John Ambulance and British Red Cross are useful websites to use for this. Create a video or PowerPoint demonstration to describe how you should manage the situation safely. In every situation, you would always call for help or ask an adult, but try and think about what you would do if you were making the decisions on your own.

<https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-award-2021-first-aid/>

Classic novel reading

Choose and read a 'Pre-War Classic Novel' (written from 1940-80) from the list given via this link and write a book review of it in 250-350 words. Your review should include: a summary of the plot, your thoughts about three of the main characters and a description of your favourite moment in the novel. Do some research of your own to find out three interesting facts about the author and list these after your review.

<https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-silver-award-classic-novel-reading-list/>

Gold Award

Reading

Create a reading journal and keep a record of the books you read for pleasure during a half term at school and the holiday that follows. The list must include some poetry and one book from pre 1980. From this list, write a full book review for two of these books. Choose one title from your list and write a new chapter for it. This could be a new ending or tell the story before Chapter One.

Touch typing skills

Complete stages 1 - 10 of DanceMat Typing. Play at least one of the typing games to practice your skills and complete the typing test. Evidence must include the results from your best typing test score.

Performing Arts

Compose a piece of music that lasts at least five minutes and perform it to an audience OR write a short, three person play of at least 10 minutes long that leaves the audience to think about a particular moral. (a smart act of kindness can go a long way) and perform it to an audience.

Service to others

Commit to doing a job for a neighbour or nearby family member on a regular basis (cooking a cake and delivering it to them, shopping or playing a game regularly to keep them company). Complete three weeks of service. Create a new charity that provides help to those in your community/neighbourhood. Invent a name for it, design and draw a logo for it and create 'the home-page' on its website.

Values award

Using the Foundation values (love, contribution, courage or flourishing) as your inspiration, design a large, floor standing structure/sculpture that could be situated in the atrium that captures the power and importance of the values at DCPS. Identify the materials you will need to create the installation and explain the process of constructing it on your plan.

Art and engineering

Choose a 20th century artist to research. Present a synopsis of their life and identify some of the key influences in their work. Choose one favourite piece they produced, present and describe this in detail in a PowerPoint or Google Slides presentation, giving reasons for your choice. OR, create a model of a famous landmark.

Digital Media

Animation and Green Screen. Create a video that combines real footage and animation that will help young children learn about a particular topic e.g. road safety. The video should be at least two minutes long and include sound effects. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-2021-digital-media/>

Creative writing

Using a well-known classic story e.g.Treasure Island or Stig of the Dump and write your own original ending for it, keeping the same characters and setting.

Technology

Learn a text-based coding language and create a working program. A quiz is a good idea to start with. Use online tutorials to help you. You may like to build on your work with Python or learn a new programming language. Show how you have tested and modified the code. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-2021-technology/>

Gardening

Plan and plant a selection of spring flowering bulbs in two different shaped pots. Research the needs of bulbs, planting considerations and how you will look after the pots. Keep a photo diary of the project, noting any top tips you would recommend others to consider when planting bulbs.

Forest School

Designs and create a model of your dream Forest school site. The following features must be included:at least one Base Camp, a fire pit area, at least one digging pit and a clear boundary edge. In addition, add three special and original

features of your own to the model, explaining why these have been included.

Cookery

Plan, prepare and make the main meal of the day (main course and pudding) for your household. The recipes you choose to use must be new to you. For the main meal, be able to explain a vegetarian option that you could offer IF there were those in your household who would appreciate this. All clearing away and washing up must also be completed.

Entertainment

Create an original family board game which can be played by at least four people. Once made, test it out on your household.

Service to school

Complete three options from the following four activities: Collect at least NINE Golden Credits. Volunteer to be an ambassador, House Captain or Deputy House Captain. Volunteer to do the Bible reading or say the prayers in the Hall assembly. Help to keep your classroom tidy for three weeks (especially at the end of the day) so that your teacher notices.

Entrepreneurship

Can you take £10 and turn it into something worth more? Show your financial planning using a spreadsheet and see if you can earn/raise more money, giving your profit to a charity of your choice.

Great Lives

Choose a historical figure who, if they were still alive today, would be 100 years old this year. Investigate why they are historically important, their legacy and what has been achieved as a result of their actions/discovery/ achievements. Prepare a short presentation to share with your bubble in assembly.

Caring for animals

Take care of an animal/pet for 4 weeks. Keep a record of what you have done each day to keep your animal/pet safe and healthy. This record needs to be clearly set out so that you could inform someone else about the commitment needed to have an animal /pet like yours (costs, time needed, space, equipment). Find out about working animals, like guide dogs or police horses. Create a PowerPoint/Slides presentation to explain how they are trained and why they are useful.

Textiles

Customise a garment and make it unique! Learn or teach yourself some new embroidery stitches and use these to add a design, flower, initial or something similar to a garment of your own.

First Aid

Create a poster or PowerPoint presentation to explain how to: a) use an adrenaline auto-injector safely or, b) what you might need to include in a First Aid kit to take on a 'wild' camping weekend, explaining why each item has been selected. Choose TWO different scenarios from the list found via the link and research the First Aid emergency situation. St John Ambulance and British Red Cross are useful websites to use for this. Create a video or PowerPoint demonstration to describe how you should manage the situation safely. In every situation, you would always call for help or ask an adult, but try and think about what you would do if you were making the decisions on your own. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-award-2021-first-aid/>

Classic novel reading

Choose and read a 'Pre-Twentieth Century Classic Novel' (written before 1900) from the list given via this link and write a book review of it in 2350-450 words. Your review should include: a summary of the plot, your thoughts about three of the main characters, a description of your favourite moment in the novel and some comments about the author's style of writing. Do some research of your own to find out three interesting facts about the author and list these after your review. <https://www.deanclose.org.uk/dcps-awards-gold-award-classic-novel-reading-list/>