DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Information Pack for Parents and Participants







Welcome to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award!

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What is the Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is a nationally recognised programme that encourages young people to challenge themselves, develop new skills, and grow in confidence. It's open to anyone aged 14–24 and is highly valued by employers, colleges, and universities.

Benefits of Taking Part

Participating in the DofE Award helps young people to:

- Build confidence, resilience, and independence
- · Learn teamwork, communication, and leadership skills
- Discover new interests and talents
- · Develop a sense of responsibility and community
- Gain a recognised and respected award for CVs, college, or job applications
- Have fun, make new friends, and experience adventure!

How the Award works

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is broken down into four sections. Volunteering, Physical and Skills activities and The Expedition.

The duration of each section is different for the level of award being obtained, these are shown later in the booklet.

You must do your chosen activities for the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections for an average of one hour a week over the specified number of months.

Volunteering:

This is all about making a difference by helping others, the environment, animals or your local community. You could choose to work with charities and non-profit organisations. If your employer or university has an adopted charity or a not for profit society you could get involved there.

Skills:

Discover something that you're really good at. Maybe you can get better at something you already do, like playing a musical instrument, fine art, or learn something new like designing a website or learning to drive It could be a skill related to enhance your current work. The sky's the limit.

Physical:

This is a chance to focus on your health and fitness and have fun along the way. Improve your fitness, health and well-being or have dance classes, it can be with a team or on your own. Set your own challenge and be the best you can be.

Expedition:

As part of a small team, you'll have an unforgettable experience getting to grips with the great outdoors. You'll improve your navigation, communication and leadership skills and take a rucksack of memories home with you

Bronze Award Requirements (Age 14+)

Participants complete four sections over a minimum of 6 months:

Section	Time Requirement	nent Description	
Volunteering	3 months	Give your time to help others or your community.	
Physical	3 months	Take part in a sport, dance, or fitness activity.	
Skills	3 months	Develop a personal interest, hobby, or practical skill.	
Expedition	2 days, 1 night Plan and complete a self-sufficient adventure journey.		

One of the Volunteering, Physical, or Skills sections must be extended to 6 months.

Silver Award Requirements (Age 15+)

If participants have not completed Bronze, they must do slightly longer time commitments.

Section	Time Requirement (Direct Entrant)	If Bronze Completed
Volunteering	6 months	6 months
Physical	6 months	3 months
Skills	6 months	3 months
Expedition	3 days, 2 nights	3 days, 2 nights

One of the Volunteering, Physical, or Skills sections must be extended to **an additional 6 months** if not progressing directly from Bronze.

Using eDofE: Your Online Record Book

All participants use **eDofE**, the official DofE online system, to record progress.

An ideas list provided by the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme for each section can be found in the appendix at the booklet.

We would advise you to discuss your thoughts on what you like to do in order to complete each section so that we can ensure you have the right support in place for you to achieve the award as well as verify that it meets the requirements.

We would also advise utilising school enrichment activities to complete the physical, skills and volunteering sections of the award.

Getting Started

- 1. You'll receive an email invite once registered.
- 2. Log in at www.edofe.org.
- 3. Set up your **profile** and **choose your activities** for each section (get them approved by your DofE Leader before starting).

Logging Your Progress

- Upload photos, evidence, or short notes showing your activity and progress.
- Update regularly it helps your Leader keep track and support you.

Submitting for Approval

- Once a section is complete, mark it as "Submit for approval."
- Your **Assessor's Report** must be uploaded or submitted through the DofE website.

Assessor Guidelines

Assessors verify and comment on a participant's commitment and progress in each section.

Assessors must:

- Be **independent** (not family members or close friends).
- Have experience or knowledge of the activity.
- Be over 18 years old.
- Provide a short written report confirming the participant has met the required time and aims.

How to complete an assessor's report:

- 1. Visit www.dofe.org/assessor.
- 2. Complete the online report form with the participant's details.
- 3. Submit directly to DofE it will automatically appear in the participant's eDofE account.

Expedition Information

Participants will take part in both **training/practice** and **qualifying** expeditions as well as attending classroom based training throughout the year.

These are designed to teach skills such as:

- Map reading and navigation
- Teamwork and leadership
- · Campcraft and outdoor cooking
- · Safety and first aid

Students **MUST** attend both practice and qualifying expeditions for Bronze and Silver. Practice expedition will be Wednesday 20th May to Friday 22nd May 2026. Qualifying exedition will be Monday 29th June to Wednesday 1st July 2026.

Estimated Costs

In order to run the award scheme some costs will need to be charged, below is an estimation of costs for the various sections of the award.

Item	Estimated Cost	Notes
Award Registration Fee	£	Paid to DofE on enrolment
Practice Expedition	£	Includes training and camping costs
Qualifying Expedition	£	Includes supervision and assessment

Although the school has some expedition equipment participants will still need provide their own expedition equipment and food, a suggested list is also available in the appendix.

Key Points for Parents and Participants

- Activities must be done regularly (around 1 hour per week).
- All activities must be pre-approved by your DofE Leader.
- You cannot backdate activities only count what you've done after approval.
- Expedition dates and details will be shared well in advance.
- Support is available throughout from your DofE Leader and staff team.

Next Steps

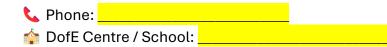
~	Complete your registration form

- Pay your DofE enrolment fee
- Choose your activities and get approval
- Log in to eDofE and start your journey!

We're excited to support you as you begin this incredible adventure — the DofE Award is a fantastic opportunity to grow, challenge yourself, and make memories that last a lifetime.

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Email:	



Appendix



Programme ideas: Volunteering section

When completing each section of your DofE, you should develop a programme which is specific and relevant to you. This sheet gives you a list of programme ideas that you could do or you could use it as a starting point to create a Volunteering section programme of your own.

You can find more information at **DofE.org/ volunteering** and there is a range of exciting opportunities to help you complete this section at **DofE.org/finder**.

It's your choice...

Volunteering gives you the chance to make a difference

to people's lives and use your skills and experience to help your local community. You can use this opportunity to become involved in a project or with an organisation that you care about.

Help with planning

You can use the programme planner on the website to work with your Leader to plan and agree your activity before you start.

Before you begin, it is important to check that your volunteering meets the criteria for businesses and family members (see **DofE.org/volunteering** for the requirements).

Helping people	Working with the	Coaching, teaching and
Helping children Helping children to read in libraries Helping in medical services e.g. Hospitals Helping older people Helping people in need Helping people with special needs Tutoring Young carer Youth work	environment or animals Animal welfare Environment Rural conservation Preserving waterways Working at an animal rescue centre Litter picking Urban conservation Beach and coastline conservation Zoo/farm/nature reserve work	Dance leadership
Community action & raising awareness Campaigning Cyber safety Council representation Drug & alcohol education Home accident prevention Neighbourhood watch Peer education Personal safety Promotion & PR Road safety	Helping a charity or community organisation Administration Being a charity intern Being a volunteer lifeguard Event management Fundraising Mountain rescue Religious education Serving a faith community Supporting a charity Working in a charity shop	- Scout Association - Air Training Corps - Volunteer Cadet Corps - Army Cadet Force - Boys' Brigade - CCF - Church Lads' & Girls' Brigade - Girlguiding UK - Girls' Brigade Sports leadership Music tuition



Programme ideas: Physical section

When completing each section of your DofE, you should develop a programme which is specific and relevant to you. Many of the DofE programme activities can be adapted to meet the needs of young people with disabilities and some, referred to as adapted sports, are unique to disabled people.

This sheet gives you a list of programme ideas that you could do or you could use it as a starting point to create a physical programme of your own.

You can find more information at DofE.org/physical

and there is a range of exciting opportunities to help you complete this section at **DofE.org/finder**.

It's your choice...

Doing physical activity is fun and improves your health and physical fitness. There's an activity to suit everyone so choose something you are really interested in.

Help with planning

You can use the programme planner on the website to work with your Leader to plan and agree your activity before you start.

Airsoft
Airsoft Canoeing Street dancing/ Gaving & potholing Curling Archery Diving breakdancing/ breakdancing/ Gaving & potholing Curling Athletics (any field or Dragon Boat Racing hip hop Track event) Free-diving Swing Free running Dodge disc Biathlon/Triathlon/ Kite surfing Tap dancing (parkour) Fives Pentathlon/ Kneeboarding Free Racing Mountain Football
Archery Diving breakdancing/ Caving & potholing Curling Dodge disc track event) Free-diving Swing Free running Dodge ball Biathkon/Triathlory Kite surfing Tap dancing Ice skating Mountain Football
Athletics (any field or Dragon Boat Racing hip hop Climbing Dodge disc track event) Free-diving Swing Free running Dodgeball Sathlon/Triathlon/ Kite surfing Tap dancing (parkour) Fives Pentathlon/ Kneeboarding Ice skating Mountain Football
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Biathlon/Triathlon/ Kite surfing Tap dancing (parkour) Fives Pentathlon/ Kneeboarding Ice skating Mountain Footbal
Pentathlon/ Kneeboarding Ice skating Mountain Football
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Bowls Saling Racquet sports Unicycling Geein frontfall
Boxing Skuring Badminton Parachuting Gostrall
Croquet Sub aqua (SCUBA Matkot Skateboarding Handball
Cross country diving & snorkelling) Racketball Skydiving Hockey
running RacketlonRackets Snow sports (sking, Hurling
Cycling Surfing/body Rapid ball snowbparding. I ce hockey
Fencing boarding Bealtennis snowliting Kabaddi
Geocaching Swimming Squash Speed skating Korfball
Golf Synchronised Table tennis Street luce Lacrosse
Gymnastics swimming Terrois Netball
Horse riding Underwater rugby Wheelchair tennis Martial arts Octopushing
Modern centathion Wakeboarding
Motocross Windsurfing Fitness Akido Quadball
Orienteering Cappeira Roler derby
Paintballing Dance Aerobics Ju Jitsu Rogaining
Pétanque Fitness classes Judo Rounders
Roller blading Ballet Gym work Medau Karate Rugby furion/Leagu
Roller skating Ballroom dancing movement Kendo Sitting Volleyball
Running Belly dancing Physical Mixed martial arts Sledge hockey
Static trapeze Bhangra dancing achievement Self-defence Sledge ice hockey
Supercross Cerec Pilates Sumo Softball
Ten pin bowling Contra dance Running/jogping Tae Kwon Do Stoolball
Trampolining Country & Western Walking Tai Chi Tchoukball
Wheelchair tencing Flamenco Weightlifting Tug of war
Wrestling Folk dancing Wil-fit Team sports Ultimate flying disc
Jazz Yoga Volleyball
Line dancing American football Wallyball
Morris dancing Baseball Water polo
Salsa (or other Latin Basketbal Wheelchair
styles) dancing Boccia basketball



Programme ideas: Skills section

When completing each section of your DofE, you should develop a programme which is specific and relevant to you. This sheet gives you a list of programme ideas that you could do or you could use it as a starting point to create a Skills programme of your own.

You can find more information at DofE.org/skills and

Paleontology

there is a range of exciting opportun		
Performance arts Ballet appreciation Ceremonial drill Circus skills Conjuring & magic Majorettes Puppetry Singing	nder. Physics Rocket making Taxonomy Weather/meteorology Website design Zoology Care of animals	Listening to, analysing & describing music Music appreciation Playing a musical instrument Playing in a band Reading & notating music Understanding music in relation to history & culture
Speech & drama Theatre appreciation Ventriliquism Yoyo extreme Science & technology Aerodynamics Anatomy App design	Agriculture (keeping livestock) Aquarium keeping Beekeeping Caring for reptiles Dog training & handling Horse/donkey/llama/alpaca handling & care Looking after birds (i.e. budgles & canaries) Pet care – health/training/	Agriculture Conservation Forestry Gardening Groundsmanship Growing carniverous plants Plant growing Snail farming Vegetable growing
☐ Astronomy ☐ Biology	maintenance Pigeon breeding & racing	Games & recreation
☐ Botany ☐ Chemistry ☐ Coding/ programming	Music	Cards (i.e. bridge) Chess Clay target shooting
☐ Ecology ☐ Electronics	Church bell ringing Composing DJing	Coxing Cycle maintenance Darts
☐ Engineering ☐ Entomology ☐ IT	Handbell ringing Evaluating music & musical	Dominoes Fishing/fly fishing
Marine biology Oceanography	performances Improvising melodies	☐ Flying ☐ Gliding

It's your choice...

Help with planning

use this skill both now and later in life.

Developing a skill helps you get better at something you are

really interested in and gives you the confidence and ability to

You can use the programme planner on the website to

work with your Leader to plan and agree your activity

□ Go-karting

continued over...

 Historical period re-enacting 	□ Criminology	☐ Fabric printing
☐ Kite construction & flying	Dowsing & divining	Feng Shui
Mah Jongg	Fashion	☐ Floral decoration
■ Marksmanship	Forces insignia	French polishing
■ Model construction & racing	Gemstones	Furniture restoration
■ Motor sports	Genealogy	Glass blowing
Power boating	Heraldry	Glass painting
Snooker, pool & billiards	History of art	Interior design
Sports appreciation	Language skills	Jewellery making
Sports leadership	Military history	Knitting
Sports officiating	Movie posters	Lace making
Table games	Postcards	Leatherwork
War games	Reading	Lettering & calligraphy
	Religious studies	Macramé
Life skills	Ship recognition	Marguetry
	Stamp collecting	■ Model construction
Alternative therapies		Mosaic
Cookery	Media & communication	Painting & design
Democracy in action		Patchwork
Digital lifestyle	Amateur radio	Photography
Driving: car maintenance/car	Blogging	Pottery
road skills	Communicating with people who	Quilting
Driving: motorcycle maintenance/	are visually impaired	Rope work
road skills	Communicating with people who	Rug making
Event planning	have a hearing impediment	Soft toy making
First aid - St John/St Andrew/	Film & video making	Tatting
BRCS	Journalism	Taxidermy
Hair & beauty	Newsletter & magazine	
and the second s		Levilos
Learning about the emergency	production	Textiles Weaving and spinning
and the second s		Weaving and spinning
Learning about the emergency	production	Weaving and spinning Wine/beer making
Learning about the emergency services	production Signalling	Weaving and spinning
Learning about the emergency services Learning about the RNLI	production Signalling Vlogging	Weaving and spinning Wine/beer making
Learning about the emergency services Learning about the RNLI (Lifeboats)	production Signalling Vlogging	Weaving and spinning Wine/beer making
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EXPEDITION KIT LIST



updated September 2025

(replaces all previous versions)

This list is a GUIDE to the items you may need when doing a DofE expedition. We only recommend items that are suitable for DofE expeditions and good value for money. There is no obligation to buy the specific items we recommend. However, the DofE charity receives a royalty from sales of DofE Recommended Kit which helps to support our work with young people. Remember, your DofE Espedition Supervisor will have the final say on the suitability of the kit required for your expedition.

For more information read our free Doff. Kit Guide at DoffLorg/shop/dofeexpedition-kit-guide/ and visit DoffLorg/shop/dofe-recommended-kit/

Doff Card

Save at least 10%, or more*, with your Doff. Card at our five Doff.
Recommended Retailers: GO Outdoors, Blacks, Millets, Ultimate Outdoors, and Tien.

- Participants and parents 10% or more
- Leaders and volunteers 15% or more

For details on how to sign up for your Digital and Physical Doff. Card either:

- See information in your Daff Welcome Pack.
- Login to eDoff or the Doff app.
- Visit one of our recommended retailer stores.

"Terms and canditions apply. Go to DoffLorg/shop/card/ for full details."

CLOTHING

Item Needed	Specific items we recommend	Got it	Packed it
1 pair of walking boots [biolemin]	Hi-Tec: Eurotrek Lite WP, Ayagarth WP, Summit WP, V-Lite Explorer WP, Ravine WP, Raven Mid WP, V-Lite Reflex WP, Jackdaw WP, Banders Expedition WP and Puse Trek Mid WP		
2 pairs of walking socks	Bridgedale: HIKE range Men's and Women's: Midweight, Lightweight and Ultralight Merino Performance, Midweight and Lightweight Merino Comfort, Lightweight and Ultralight Coolmax Performance, Junior Merino Comfort		
2 pairs of sock liners (options)	Bridgedale: LINERS Base Layer Coolmax Liner		
Jacket/coat waterproof and windproof	Craghoppers Vanth and Ossus Waterproof Jackets		
Waterproof overtrousers	Craghoppers Ascent Overtrousers		
2 fleece tops or similar	Craghoppers Tarvos, Esk and Travos Hooded Jackets and Half Zip Fleece		
2-3 t-shirts (thermal optional)	Craghoppers: Charon or Ellie T-Shirt		
2 walking trousers (warm, NOT (ears)	Craghoppers: Brisk and Mimas Trousers and Alex Leggings		
1 pair of shorts (Fappropriate)	Creghoppers Brisk Shorts		
Underweer			
Nightweer			
Flip flops/sandals (optional for camp site use)			
Warm hat and/or sumhat (as appropriate)			
1 pair of gloves [fappeoprists]			
1 pair of gaiters (options)			

PERSONAL KIT

Item Needed	Specific items we recommend	Got it	Packed it
Rucksack	Vango: Contour, Sherpa, Summit and Denail Pro rucksacks		
Rucksack liner (or 2 strong plastic bags)	Lifewenture: Ultralight Dry Bags (2/5/10/15/25/35/35/75L) and Compression Sacks (5/10/15L)		
Sleeping bag	Vango: Nitestar, Latitude, Ultralibe Pro, Olympus Pro, Zenith, Microlite, Stratos and Mantis		
Sleeping mat	Vango: Trek Pro, Single Trek, Dreamer mats		
Waterproof bag	Lifeventure: Ultralight Dry Bags, Stormlight Dry Bags		
Sleeping bag liner (options)	Lifeventure: Cotton sleeping bag liners		
Whistle	Lifesystems: Safety, Echo, Hurricane whistles		
Torch [hand held, head torch and spare batteries]	Lifesystems: Intenisty 580, Intensity 300 and Intensity 55 head torches		
Personal first aid kit	Lifesystems: Camping, Trek, Blister, Waterproof first aid kits. Visit Doff.org/shopping/safety		
Food [including emergency lations]	Waylayrer: ready to eat expedition food Radix: dehydrated meals and breakfasts Get advice at Doff. or g/shopping/food		
Water bottle	Lifeventure: Tritan Flask (1000ml), Tritan Flip-Top Bottle (750ml), Tritan Bottle (850ml)		
Cutlery**	Lifeventure: Stainless steel, Ellipse, Titanium knife, fork and spoon sats		
Plate/bowl	Lifeventure: Stainless steel camping bowl, camping plats, Titanium plats, Ellipse plats, bowl, collapsible bowl		

Continued over



*This discretionary discount is not to be used in conjunction with any other offers or discounts. Please-slet DofE.org/shopping/card for

-continued

Item Needed	Specific items we recommend	Gotit	Packedit
Mug	Lifeventure: Stainless steel, Titanium, Ellipse mugs		
Box of matches (in waterproof container)	Lifesystems: Stormproof matches.		
Wash kit/personal hygiene items (some items could be shared as a group)	Lifeventure: Wesh bag (small), All-purpose scap, Dry wesh gel		
Sunblock	Lifesystems: Mountain 50 suncream, Mountain Combi Stick SPF50+		
Towel	Lifeventure: Recycled Soft Fibre Towel (large, a-large, glant)		
Small quantity of money (sptional)			
Notebook and pen/pencil			
Watch			

GROUP KIT (To carry between the team)

Item Needed	Specific items we recommend	Got it	Packed it
Tent(s)	Vango Trek Tents: Nevis, Scafell, Helvellyn, Nova, Banahee Vango Trek Pro: Apex Compact, Apex Geo, Halo, Ornega, Cairngorm, Braeman		
Camping stove(s)	Trangia: 25 and 27 series, Gas bu ner, Liquid fuel burner Vango: Folding gas stoves		
Camping stove fuel*** In an appropriate and safe container	Trangia: Fuel bottles (D.3/D5/L)		
Cooking pans			
Scourers			
Tin opener (Frequired)			
Tea towels			
Plastic bags (for subbish etc.)			
Toilet paper and trowel			
Maps (125 000/150 000)	Ordnance Survey: Explorer, Landranger maps (standard or weatherproof)		
Compass	Silva: Classic, Field, Ranger, Expedition 4 and Starter 125 compasses		
Map cases	Silva: Waterproof Map Case Medium, Waterproof Lite Map Case Medium		
Camera (optional)			
Tick remover (conton-dependent-advyour (upervisor)			
Survival bag	Lifesystems: Heatshield, Survival, Thermal bags, Thermal blankets		

ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL KIT (for you to consider)

Item Needed	Specific items we recommend	Got it	Packed it
Head/Neck scarf			
Hydration pack	Vange: 2L Hydration pack		
Storm shelter	Vango: Storm shelters		
Stove multidisc (ic)butting board)	Trangis: Multidisc 25 series, Multidisc 27 series		
Pre-packed expedition food	Wayfayrer: ready to eat expedition food Radia: dehydrated meals and breakfasts		
Small pocket tool**			
After-sun cream			
Sunglasses			
Insect repellent	Lifesystems: Expedition 50 PRO and Expedition Natural insect repollents		
Stopwatch			
Waterproofing (pre-expedition)	Nikwas: Tech Wash Cleaner, TX.Direct Wash-in Reproofer, Footwear Cleaning Cel, Waterproofing Was for Leather, Fabric and Leather Proof, Nubuck and Suede Proof, Tent and Cear Solarproof, Tent and Cear Solarwash		
String			
Spare boot laces			
Walking poles	Vango: Pico, Camino and Kesugi walking poles		
Masquito net	Lifesystems: MicroNet Single Mosquito Net		
Light Sticks	Lifesystems: 15h Light Sticks, 8hr Light Sticks, Intensity Glow Marker		
Water purifying tablets	Lifesystems: Chlorine Dioxide tablets		

[&]quot; It is against the law to sell a knife to anyone under the age of 16 (unless it has a manual folding blade less than 3 inches long) and to use any limite in a threatening way.

^{**} It is against the law to sell a substance with butane as a constituent part to any person under the age of Ni.

