



Following our DoE presentation to parents at our school on Thursday 10 November, please refer to FAQ for further information.

### Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Awards Information

The award is made up of 4 sections.

The skills, volunteering and physical section of the award allow young people to develop current or new interests and help within their community. An activity must be chosen for each of these sections and completed for an hour per week over their chosen time frame. 2 activities need to continue for 3 months and one for 6 months, this can be in any order.



**Volunteering:** It's about choosing to give time to help people, the community or society, the environment or animals. Your volunteering **must not** be done for a business but can be undertaken for a charity or not-for-profit organisation. Where your volunteering is in support of surplus generating work.

*For example:* charity shop, dog walking, child minding, coaching

**Physical:** you need to choose any sport, dance or fitness activity – in short, anything that requires a sustained level of energy and physical activity. However, it cannot be the activities done during PE lessons in school.

*For example:* Netball, Cricket, Running, Walking, Basketball, Football

**Skills:** you need to choose an activity that will allow you to prove you have broadened your understanding and increased your expertise in your chosen skill. It should not be a physical activity.

*For example:* Learning an instrument, baking, sewing, painting, astrology, debating

All sections need to be recorded to prove you completed each one for the time needed. This is done by you documenting each activity, this can be done with pictures, screen shots of apps used to complete the activity or keep a log on the eDofE app. Then each activity needs an assessor report. The assessor is someone who has seen you completing the activity, writing down that you have completed a named section (Skill, Volunteering, or Physical) and how you have done in it. This person must be an adult but cannot be a family member.

Miss Burton will be holding open times every Wednesday after school for students to come with questions about uploading evidence, who the assessor can be or just to let her know there is evidence on the page ready to be signed off.



For more information on any of these please go to: [Activities - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://www.dofe.org)

**Expedition:** The expedition section is perhaps the most exciting section of the award and what it is most well-known for. Participants must complete the required training and practice expedition for before completing a qualifying expedition where they will be assessed against the 20 DofE Conditions.



Eden Girls' School, Slough will be working with **BXM Expeditions** to complete the expedition section of the award. All expedition locations will be local to the school to keep transport to a minimum. There are great areas of walking here so there is no need to travel further than needed.

A training day will occur on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023 where students will be working with BXM to learn how to read the maps as well as planning their routes, planning their menus, practicing putting tents up and using the stoves.

Then they will take part in a training expedition 22-23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 to further prepare students for their qualifying expedition in July. BXM instructors will work with the students to ensure they are fully trained and prepared. All staff will do their best to facilitate the success of each student, but it is important to remember an element of hard work must also come from participants themselves. The girls will be in walking groups of 5-7. They will be planning the route, food menu, carrying of equipment and putting up tents together. They are allowed to have phones on them but within the group all but 2 need to be on airplane mode whilst walking. The two with fully working phones can only use them for contacting instructors and staff, using internet to access google maps or other GPS systems will lead to failing the expedition. The others can use their phone to take pictures and videos only.

BXM provide the following:

- Training
- Tents
- Stoves
- Gas
- Maps
- Camp site fees
- Instructors

You must provide:

- Personal kit – clothing, rucksack, walking shoes, food,
- Transport to and from start and end points

You can either buy these things new, you can use Duke of Edinburgh discounts to help:

<https://www.dofe.org/shopping/discounts/>

Or you can use old things you already own, or you can hire from BWM:

<https://www.bxmoutdoors.com/equipment-hire/>



At the camp site instructors and staff from Eden Girls will be present to ensure girls are setting up their tents and cooking safely. The girls will be sleeping in 3-man tents these are shared among the groups they are walking in. Eden Girls staff (Miss Burton and Ms Brookes) will be sleeping overnight at the camp site along with the girls to ensure safety.

The total price for Duke of Edinburgh is £204, this is for registration and covering the equipment provided by BXM. This does not cover the items you will need to provide for the expedition. This needs to be paid on ParentPay by the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022.

Throughout the award we will regularly keep you up to date with up coming events such as the training days and expeditions.

If you have any more questions, please email them to [info@egslough.staracademies.org](mailto:info@egslough.staracademies.org) with the subject Duke of Edinburgh and we will try to answer it as best we can as quickly as we can.

## **Useful Websites to explore:**

1. Expedition advice for parents: [Advice for parents - BXM - The School Expedition Specialists - BXM Outdoors Ltd](#)
2. Welcome to the DofE and eDofE training videos: <https://youtu.be/yN7wTcxK4o8> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/theDofEUK>
3. South East DofE Resources - [South East Resources - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](#)
4. Careers and Skills zone - [LifeZone - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](#)
5. DofE Discounts <https://www.dofe.org/shopping/discounts/>
6. Assessor portal - <https://www.edofe.org/assessor>
7. Welcome pack online downloads - <https://www.dofe.org/welcome-packs-dth>
8. Opportunity finder for activities - <https://www.dofe.org/opportunity-finder/>