



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
TAKE THE CHALLENGE

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Mission

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award aim is to provide an enjoyable, challenging and rewarding programme of personal development for young people, which is of the highest quality and the widest reach.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

A highly successful programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities for young people with over 250,000 participants and a network of Award Groups throughout the UK



Key Principles

- Non-competitive
- Available to all
- Voluntary
- Flexible
- Balanced
- Progressive
- Achievement focused
- Marathon not a sprint
- Personal development
- Enjoyable



Our Commitment to Young People

We aim to ensure that you enjoy a high quality Award experience. As a participant you can expect:

- to take part in an Award which is held in high regard by potential employers and the general public
- a supportive and positive environment that ensures you enjoy your Award experience
- relevant and up to date information and advice



- Guidance on finding the resources necessary to enable you to meet the objectives of the Award Programme
- safe and appropriate training and assessment
- recognition of your success and achievements
- freedom of choice enabling you to choose the activities you wish to pursue
- equal opportunities
- to be involved in planning, decision making and reviewing your experience



- opportunities for you to develop personal and social skills leading to increased confidence, independence and self-esteem
- supportive evaluation and feedback that enables you to gain knowledge, understanding and increased self-awareness

As you get involved we hope you will fulfil your ambitions, make friends and have fun in the process. Your Award Leaders and Operating Authority are there to support, so make the most of them. Remember the more you put in, the more you will get out



Three Levels of Award

- Bronze (14+)
- Silver (15+)
- Gold (16+)



Four Sections

- **Service** - helping others
- **Skills** - developing personal interests
- **Physical Recreation** - encouraging physical fitness and an active lifestyle
- **Expeditions** - undertaking an adventurous journey in a small team

For the Gold Award there is also a:

- **Residential Project**



Bronze Award

Service	Skills	Physical Recreation	Expeditions
3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months
<p>All participants must undertake a further 3 months in either the Service, Skills or Physical Recreation Section</p>			



Silver Award

Service	Skills	Physical Recreation	Expeditions
6 months	One Section for 6 months and the other for 3 months		Plan and undertake a 3 day, 2 night venture
People who do not have the Bronze Award must undertake a further 6 months in either the Service, or the longer of the Skills and Physical Recreation Sections			



Gold Award

Service	Skills	Physical Recreation	Expeditions	Residential
12 months	One Section for 12 months, the other for 6 months		Plan, prepare for and undertake a 4 day, 3 night venture	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights
People who do not have the Silver Award must undertake a further 6 months in either the Service or the longer of the Skills or Physical Recreation Sections				



Service Section

Participants should

- identify the need for the service
- gain some knowledge of the needs of those whom they will be assisting
- receive briefing and training in the necessary skills required to give that service



Service Options

- People in the Community
- Environmental Service
- Emergency Services
- Fundraising
- Rescue Service
- Safety Training



Skills Section

Participants should:

- Select and follow an activity
- Show progression and sustained interest
- Gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of the activity



Skills Options

- There are over 200 activities listed in either the Programmes File or on the web site Examples include:
 - Art & Design
 - DJ-ing
 - Drugs & Peer Education
 - Journalism
 - Kite construction & flying
 - Music
 - Sports officiating



Physical Recreation

This Section should provide opportunities for young people to:

- enjoy keeping fit and improve their levels of fitness
- discover new abilities
- raise self-esteem
- extend personal goals
- set and meet new challenges
- experience a sense of achievement



Physical Recreation Activities

- Any activity can be followed which is recognised by the Operating Authority and has a governing body recognised by the home country sports council.

Examples include:

- athletics
- basketball
- canoeing
- dance
- football
- surfing/ body boarding



Expeditions

Participants must :

- undertake training
- undertake sufficient practice journeys
- plan and undertake a qualifying expedition
- review and provide a presentation or account of their expedition



Expedition Requirements

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Duration	2 days/1 night	3 days/2 night	4 days/3 nights
Daily Planned Activity	Minimum of 6 hours during the daytime	Minimum of 7 hours during the daytime	Minimum of 8 hours during the daytime
Hours of planned activity should be a combination of journeying, exploring and rest breaks, setting up and striking camp are additional			
At least half the hours of planned activity should be spent journeying			



Residential Project

The Project should provide opportunities to:

- meet new people
- experience an unfamiliar environment
- work as part of a team
- build new relationships and show concern for others
- accept responsibility
- develop communication skills
- show initiative
- enjoy living and working with others



Residential Opportunities

Suitable opportunities generally fall into the following categories:

- conservation or environmental work
- service to others
- activity based
- personal training



Benefits for Young People

- self-belief
- a sense of identity
- a sense of responsibility
- the ability to plan and use time effectively
- skills including problem solving, presentation and communication
- self-confidence
- independence
- an understanding of strengths and weaknesses
- an awareness of their potential
- new relationships
- the ability to lead and work as part of a team
- the ability to learn from and give to others in the community



Support Materials

- Handbook
- Programmes File
- Entrance Pack
- Separate Record Books for each level
- New Leader training materials
- Award Leader's CD ROM

www.theaward.org



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