



TUDOR GRANGE ACADEMY WORCESTER

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience a challenge unlike no other. Forged through adversity they should become more organised, resilient, adaptable problem solvers and effective team leaders. Confidence and career prospects improve as companies and universities highly value all three DofE awards. With increasing levels of challenge at every stage, there is no point where DofE is not a life changing experience.

I thank you in advance for taking the time to read through this booklet. If there are unanswered questions or omissions you feel should be covered please do not hesitate to contact either myself Mrs O'Donnell at vodonnell@worcs.tgacademy.org.uk or the school office on 01905 454627

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1. Introduction to the Duke of Edinburgh Award

“The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award has helped countless young people on their sometimes difficult path to adulthood.” HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

“For the past seven decades, DofE UK has inspired and transformed the lives of millions of young people from all walks of life. From volunteering to physical activities, life skills to expeditions, achieving a DofE Award is a passport to a brighter future, valued by employers and universities.” www.dofe.org

2. Important Dates for the year

Activity	Dates 2023	Additional Details
Payment and enrolment deadline	15 th September	All forms returned and £45 enrolment fee paid on parent pay.
Expedition equipment evening partnered with Go Outdoors	TBC	

BRONZE Activity	Dates 2024	Additional Details
Navigation Day	Saturday 27 th April	Walking in the Worcestershire countryside
Expedition training in school	29 th April	8.35am-4.00pm
Expedition Practice Weekend	14-15 th June	Parental Drop off and collection in Worcestershire
Expedition Assessed	5-6 th July	

SILVER Activity	Dates 2024	Additional Details
Navigation Day	TBC	Walking in the Worcestershire countryside
Expedition training in school	29 th April	8.35am-4.00pm
Expedition Practice Weekend	18-20 th May	Parental Drop off and collection in Long Mynd, Shropshire
Expedition Assessed	Sept 2024	
Expedition Presentations	Oct 2024	
*Gold dates to be confirmed when booking with CTS.		

3. Cost breakdown, enrolment and deadlines

Award	Activity Provider	Licence Fee	Enrolment Fee	Transport	Campsite fees	Training and staffing	Equipment hire, consumables and upkeep	Total
Bronze	-	£20	£25	Parent drop off	£20	£65	£40	£170
Silver	-	£20	£25		£40	£65	£60	£210
Gold	£525 to be paid directly to CTS	£10	£35		-	-	£30	£600

Award	Non-refundable £45 deposit	Payment 2	Payment 3
Bronze	15 th September	£62.50 by 26 th January	£62.50 by 22 nd March
Silver	15 th September	£82.50 by 26 th January	£82.50 by 22 nd March
Gold	1 st November	Remainder to be paid to CTS as per their agreements	

4. Notifications for parents and participants

Before the end of January, every student will need to complete an enrolment form and have paid a minimum of 50% via parent pay.

Upon enrolment to DofE every participant receives a welcome pack which will be delivered to your home address. This pack contains a participant and carer section, more detail on the different sections of the DofE award and how to go about completing them. It comes with the eDofE login, log book and a discount card for outdoor stores such as Blacks, Go Outdoors and Mountain Warehouse.

The participants will receive letters prior to any expedition outlining travelling details, health and safety notes and medical forms with a single copy of the route card.

Updates will be posted on the school website and on the Tudor Grange Worcester DofE twitter page <https://twitter.com/TGAWDofE>. Twitter is used as this is the easiest way to contact parents and carers during expedition.

5. eDofE and assessment sections

Participants will work on 4 sections: skills, physical, volunteering and expedition. Each section requires extensive evidence to be logged on the eDofE platform. eDofE is an online service provided by the DofE where students build a profile, log evidence and can communicate with DofE staff.

Every group will have a specific member of staff to monitor their progress. There are rules describing what is and is not appropriate for these sections. These are included in both the official welcome pack and online. Students will also receive an in-school briefing on eDofE and their sections. **A minimum of 2 sections must be fully complete for students to be able to participate in the practice or assessed expeditions.**

Details about the sections can be found online at:

www.dofe.org/doing-your-dofe

6. Expedition and presentation

Participants will learn all the necessary skills including navigation, camp craft, first aid and emergency procedures; plan and carry out a practice expedition and plan and carry out a qualifying (assessed) expedition. Their expedition must meet the 20 Conditions set out by the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The participants are responsible for their own safety and well-being whilst on expedition and outside of the direct supervision of staff (both TGAW and Accredited Activity Provider). The main reasons participants require medical intervention on expedition is dehydration and heat injury. All participants receive appropriate briefings on how to obtain water with and without staff intervention on expedition. It is their responsibility to adequately hydrate and protect themselves and their group in addition to using the regular water checkpoints run by TGAW staff.

Expedition Presentations

Presentations can be done by individuals or by the group - but it must be clear as to who has produced what in the presentation. It should reflect genuine effort from each member of the team.

You can also choose who will assess your presentation – generally your group assessor, but it could be somebody else who has been involved with the expedition in some way. The presentation should be discussed at the planning stage, so that it can fit in with the aim of the expedition.

As well as a report on your aim, your report may include the following information:

- Title page – group members, expedition dates, expedition area, expedition aim
- Route cards and tracing of the route
- Kit list – review what you used / did not use
- First aid kit list – did you need to use anything from it?
- Menus
- Illustrations, sketches, photographs
- Weather conditions
- Group morale – highs and lows
- Details of the journey – who led and when, did you get lost? Were you on time?
- Details of the camping – what was the food like, how well did you sleep?
- Any funny incidents, or difficulties
- Why did you choose your particular aim and was it successful?
- Conclusion – overall, did you enjoy it and will you want to go on to do the next Award level?

The **main reason** for participants not completing the expedition section is failure to submit a presentation.

7. Expectations of participants

Participants must have;

- minimum 50% paid pre-enrolment non-refundable, complete by end of January.
- attended the weekly DofE sessions every week, period 6 with their group leader. Who that is and which day is decided at the first meeting.
- confirmed what they are doing for their sections with their group leader
- attended the equipment demonstration evening
- **completed** a minimum of **two sections** on eDofE to go on expedition
- organised groups of 6-7 for their expedition
- appropriate equipment for expeditions
- completed and submitted route cards accurately and fully 2 weeks before expedition (checked by TGAW staff)
- submitted medical consent forms 2 weeks before expedition
- attended training and practice expeditions before assessment
- return all borrowed equipment

There have been issues in prior years with the care and return of equipment borrowed from the school. Participation in the expeditions and the DofE award may require equipment on loan from the school. Equipment will be signed off for by each participant. Failure to return equipment or damage to equipment will result in a fee to repair or replace what was lost or damaged.

8. Useful websites

<https://www.dofe.org/doing-your-dofe>

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

<http://eva8.co.uk/Ration-Packs.html>

<https://www.gooutdoors.co.uk/>

<https://www.dofe.org/coronavirus/faqs-participants>

<https://twitter.com/dofecentral>

https://twitter.com/TGAW_DofE

NOTES



The 20 Conditions of the Expedition section

DofE qualifying expedition conditions	
Planning the expedition	1 The team must plan and organise the expedition; all members of the team should be able to describe the role they have played in planning.
	2 The expedition must have an aim. The aim can be set by the Leader at Bronze level only.
	3 All participants must be within the qualifying age of the programme level and at the same Award level (i.e. not have completed the same or higher level of expedition).
	4 There must be between four and seven participants in a team (eight for modes of travel which have tandem)
	5 The expedition should take place in the recommended environment. Bronze: Expeditions should be in normal rural countryside – familiar and local to groups. Silver: Expeditions should be in normal rural, open countryside or forest – unfamiliar to groups. Gold: Expeditions should be in wild country (remote from habitation) which is unfamiliar to groups.
	6 Accommodation must be by camping or other simple self-catering accommodation (e.g. camping barns or bunkhouses).
	7 The expedition must be of the correct duration and meet the minimum hours of planned activity. Bronze: A minimum of 2 days, 1 night; 6 hours planned activity each day. Silver: A minimum of 3 days, 2 nights; 7 hours planned activity each day. Gold: A minimum of 4 days, 3 nights; 8 hours planned activity each day.
	8 All expeditions must be supervised by an adult (the Expedition Supervisor) who is able to accept responsibility for the safety of the team.
	9 Assessment must be by an accredited Assessor. At Bronze level only, the Assessor may also be the Expedition Supervisor.
	10 Expeditions will usually take place between the end of March and the end of October. They may take place outside this period, if so, non-camping accommodation options should be considered.
Training and practice	11 Participants must be adequately trained to safely undertake a remotely supervised expedition in the environment in which they will be operating. Bronze: Teams must complete the required training. Silver: Teams must complete the required training and a practice expedition of a minimum 2 days, 2 nights. Gold: Teams must complete the required training and a practice expedition of a minimum 2 days, 2 nights
	12 All expeditions must be by the participants' own physical effort, without motorised or outside assistance. Mobility aids may be used where appropriate to the needs of the participant.
During the expedition	13 All expeditions must be unaccompanied and self-sufficient. The team must be properly equipped, and supervision must be carried out remotely.
	14 Teams must possess the necessary physical fitness, first aid and expedition skills required to complete their expedition safely.
	15 Groups must adhere to a mobile phone use policy as agreed with their Expedition Supervisor and Assessor. This agreement should also include use of other electronic equipment.
	16 Participants must behave responsibly with respect for their team members, Leaders, the public and animals.
	17 Groups must understand and adhere to the Countryside /Scottish Outdoor Access, Highway and Water Sports Codes (as appropriate).
	18 Participants must plan an appropriate expedition menu, including cooking and eating a substantial hot meal on each day. This is optional on the final day.
Post expedition	19 Participants must actively participate in a debrief with their Assessor at the end of the expedition.
	20 At Silver and Gold level, a presentation must be prepared and delivered after the expedition.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a Registered Charity No: 1072490, and in Scotland No: SC038254, and a Royal Charter Corporation No: RC000806.
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DofE.org





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