



New look and feel for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

In September The Duke of Edinburgh's Award launched its new look and feel, which included a new logo as well as other changes ... read on to find out more.

DofE

In future the abbreviated reference for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award should be "the DofE" and young people taking part are doing a "DofE programme". When this is completed they achieve a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award – the level should always come **before** "The Duke of Edinburgh's Award". Thus please refer to "The Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award" or abbreviate it to "The Silver DofE Award" but **not** to "The Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award".

Logo

The new logo (seen above) is available to download from www.dofe.org/logo, where there is also details on how the logo should be used and protected. As an Operating Authority BB Companies have permission to use the logo as part of their activities.

Volunteering, Physical, Expedition, Residential

Volunteering is the new name for the Service Section, the name has been changed to be more flexible with today's huge range of volunteering possibilities. Physical Recreation has been renamed 'Physical', Expeditions has been renamed 'Expedition' and 'Residential Project' becomes 'Residential'.

Achieving

It is important that we use the right terminology, with young people achieving an Award – they never win it.

Undertaking Activity prior to Entry

Where an activity is undertaken prior to entry into DofE, in future only one Section can be retrospective (previously several activities could be used).

Start Dates

Previously the participant's start date for any Section was the date of initial briefing but this has changed to be the date of the first meeting/practical.

Terminology

Check out some of the changes to terminology we use when referring to the DofE . . .

Participant

Any young person doing a DofE programme.

DofE Leader

The adult responsible for those taking their DofE. Within a Boys' Brigade Company this may be the Captain or another designated Leader. They lead, guide and encourage young people, agree their programme choices and sign off Record Books.

Supervisor

A Supervisor is essential for the Expedition section as they are responsible for supervising and supporting a team of participants to ensure their safety and well-being whilst they are doing their expedition.

Assessor

An adult who checks on a young person's progress and agrees the completion of a Section of their programme. They will sign a participant's Record Book to confirm this. In the Expedition Section, qualifying expeditions must be assessed by a competent adult who is approved by the Operating Authority and accredited by The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Charity.

DofE Co-ordinator

In the case of The Boys' Brigade, formerly known as a Convenor and supports Companies and Leaders involved in The DofE Award in a Battalion or District.

DofE Manager

The person in an Operating Authority who is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of the DofE.

Operating Authority (OA)

The Operating Authority, in our case The Boys' Brigade, holds the licence to manage the delivery of DofE programmes and authorise Awards.

A look at the sections in greater depth

Volunteering Section

The Volunteering Section now has five new categories as below which are the titles to use in Record Books. Where there is a training course this is now only acceptable as one quarter of the time requirement, the remainder having to be practical involvement. Failing this, the subjects used will instead come under the Skills Section.

(1) Helping People (2) Community Action and Raising Awareness
(3) Coaching, Teaching and Leadership (4) Working with the Environment or Animals (5) Helping a Charity or Community Organisation.

Training for the Volunteering Section

When a participant chooses the subject of "The Boys' Brigade" for the Volunteering Section this will now come under (3) and there is a training requirement which hitherto has been attendance at Leadership 3 for Bronze Standard, Brigade Leadership 4 (Queen's Badge Foundation Course) for Silver Standard and Youth Leader Training (on the assumption that the participant is also intending to become an Officer) for Gold Standard or equivalent Courses. With the advent of the Discover and Challenge Plus Programmes, please note that the training requirements are now the non-residential teamwork skills experience to be entitled 'Building Your Skills Course' outlined in the Discover Programme on page 2 of the Awards Section for Bronze Standard, a 'Skills-Based Training Course' as outlined in the Challenge Plus Programme on page 3 of the Awards Section for Silver Standard, and remains as 'Youth Leader Training' for Gold Standard or equivalent Courses.

If Leaders are not sure about these requirements, please check with your Co-ordinator or with the Award Manager at Felden Lodge as failure to attend a relevant Course is one of the most common reasons for Record Books being rejected.

Physical Section

The new categories are (1) Team Sports (2) Individual Sports
(3) Water sports (4) Racquet sports (5) Dance (6) Fitness
(7) Extreme sports (8) Martial arts.

Skills Section

For the Skills Section participants should now draw up their own programmes in consultation with their Leader and there are printed programme planners available for this purpose.

The new categories are (1) Performance Arts (2) Science and Technology (3) Care of Animals (4) Music (5) Natural World (6) Games and Sports (7) Life Skills (8) Learning and Collecting (9) Media and Communication (10) Creative Arts.

Expedition Section

The new categories are (1) By Foot (2) By Bicycle (3) By Boat (4) By Canoe or Kayak (5) by Wheelchair (6) On Horseback.

All Expedition Assessors must be accredited at the appropriate level through the DofE's Award Expedition Assessor Accreditation Scheme in addition to holding The Boys' Brigade E. and O. L. Certificate.

Expeditions planned to take place abroad must now first complete a practice in the U.K.

On 1st October the DofE launched a new system which replaced the Other Adventurous Projects (OAP) and informal variations system for those with specific needs. The Expedition Variations Application Form will be used for both and is to be used to apply AFTER advice has been sought from B.B. Headquarters. The form is available from www.DofE.org and must be submitted at least 12 weeks before the expedition allowing time for any amendments. It is to be used in conjunction with the appropriate expedition notification forms. The Boys' Brigade will be responsible for advising and making decisions on requests for Bronze and Silver participants but Gold and adventurous project requests will go directly to the DofE with copies to The Boys' Brigade.

Residential Section

The new categories are (1) Service to Others (2) Environment and Conservation (3) Learning (4) Activity Based.

Resources

The Handbook for DofE Leaders / DofE Magazine

There is a new title for the Handbook which is to be known as The Handbook for DofE Leaders. The Award Journal has now become 'DofE Magazine'.

Programmes File

The Programmes File is no longer to be used (although it might be worth retaining as a source of guidance) and young people are to draw up their own programmes in consultation with Leaders. Leaders could link these into the BB's Discover & Challenge Plus Programmes.