



# The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a personal challenge which is tailor-made to suit personal circumstances. This reflects a young person's individual starting point, abilities and interests. Young people design their programme to suit their personal circumstances, choices and local provision.

Participants can do their DofE activities during school hours, the self-development nature of DofE fits in perfectly with an alternative curriculum or education programme.

The flexible nature of the DofE means that every young person, regardless of any additional needs, can face their personal challenges to achieve their DofE Award.

It is important to remember that no young person is pushed beyond their limits and every programme is designed to reflect their individual starting point, abilities and interests. By participating in the DofE, core skills such as self-esteem, independence and the ability to adapt to new environments can be developed outside of the classroom. This is because every section of the DofE gives young people the opportunity to be independent, grow in confidence and be challenged as an individual.

One of the most exciting things about the DofE is that young people can achieve at the same level as their mainstream peers – an award which is recognised by potential employers across the country. So, by supporting our young people's pursuit of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award, we are investing in their development and future.

Some of the areas we see development in as they work through their DofE programme are:

*Initiative*

*Organisation Skills*

*New friendships*

*Self-belief and self-confidence*

*Leadership and teamworking skills*

*A real awareness of their strengths*

*A sense of identity and responsibility*

*Problem solving, presentation and communication skills*

*The ability to learn from and give to others in the community.*