

At Woodhouse Grove we recognise the Duke of Edinburgh's award as a great opportunity for our students to broaden their horizons, discover new interests and talents, have fun with friends, develop essential skills for their future and achieve an internationally renowned Award.

About the DofE

The DofE is non-competitive and open to all young people – it's about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries. There are three levels of DofE programme which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. We currently offers the Bronze and Gold award with the pupils generally starting their bronze award from Year 10.



Through their DofE, students will make friends and memories and build traits like confidence, resilience and self-esteem, which can benefit mental health. They'll gain skills and attributes for work and life, like problem-solving, team-working and self-motivation – and they'll achieve an Award that is recognised by top employers and can help them stand out when applying for university or jobs.

To achieve their Award, participants must complete different sections: Skills, Volunteering, Physical and their Expedition. For Gold they must also complete a residential section.

Every young person's DofE programme is personal to them – they can choose what they'd like to do for their Skills, Volunteering and Physical sections, and most activities can count. We will provide guidance and support, and students can either choose to continue an activity they already do or discover something completely new.

Activities for each section take a minimum of one hour a week over a set period of time, so they can fit around studying, hobbies and social lives.

About the expedition

The Expedition section involves the student working as part of a small team to plan their expedition's aim, choose a location and do some training to make sure they're fully prepared – before spending two days at Bronze and four days for Gold, camping in the countryside.

Ahead of this, they will take part in the training covering basic expedition principles and introducing them to expedition equipment. There are also be a number of after school training sessions in which the student and their group will plan their route and prepare.

