

D OF E EXPEDITIONS/SECTIONS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The DofE organisation exists to support young people's development and the health and well-being of its participants, staff and supporters has always been their number one priority but never more so than during the coronavirus pandemic. The DofE network has provided guidance about how activities can be adapted in order to comply with Government guidelines whilst maintaining the value and integrity of the award. This guidance has already been sent out to you.

You will by now have realised that we will not be able to run our expeditions as usual this year. In recognition of all the hard work participants have been putting into their skills, physical and volunteering sections a new accolade has been put into place. All participants who have completed their skills, volunteering and physical recreation sections at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels but have been unable to do their expedition as a result of the pandemic will receive a formal certificate from DofE in recognition of their dedication and achievements through these three sections as well as their resilience in coping with the unprecedented events of this year.

The Award Office are currently working on flexibilities that might allow for expeditions with a difference to take place once Government guidance states that it is safe to do so. When we receive this information we will consult with Riddlesdown Senior Leadership to see what we might be able to offer in the future so that you don't miss out on the expedition experience completely. In the meantime participants at Bronze level who have completed skills, volunteering and physical recreation will be able to proceed on to Silver level as if they had fully completed their Bronze Award. In this instance the Silver practice expedition will be counted as the qualifying expedition for Bronze enabling participants to fully complete both Bronze and Silver levels of the award.

Please refer to recent emails that have been sent to both students and parents with information regarding edofe, which includes how to change activities to continue sections at home.

Please also see the [Frequently Asked Questions/Answers](#) in the link on this page.

If you have any queries please email gill.white@riddlesdown.org

Well done to everybody who is continuing with their Award at this difficult time.

Best wishes

Miss Baker and Mrs White