

Duke of Edinburgh FAQs Young People

What do I need to do to start doing my DofE at an RYA Centre?

Find your nearest RYA DofE Centre, to enable you to complete sections through sailing, windsurfing or powerboating. If you're not sure call RYA Training and they should be able to help you. Eventually we hope to be able to provide you with a search option in 'Where's my nearest'. Once found, complete your enrolment form with them and pay your participation fee. The participation fee includes your eDofE account, Welcome Pack, and certificate and badge once you have achieved your award.

If you still have some queries, the following link at on the DofE website will hopefully help:

<http://www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/faqs/welcome-pack-and-edo/>

How do I go about doing my expedition for my DofE?

The following link will take you to the 'Expedition Section Requirements' page on the DofE website, hopefully here you will find all the information you require to start understanding through five simple steps,

<http://www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/doing-your-dofe/activities-sections/expedition/expedition-require/>

Where can I do my expedition?

If you are looking for a provider who delivers expeditions, the following link to the DofE website will provide you with a list of Approved Activity Providers (AAP's). Otherwise, you will be able to do it through your DofE Centre.

<http://www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/leaders/approved-providers/>

How do I go about using sailing and windsurfing as part of my DofE activity?

There are a number of ways you can use sailing and windsurfing activity to count towards sections of your DofE, from learning or progressing your skills and taking an RYA Course; to volunteering to help others; working in the galley or becoming a member of the club committee. Here are a few examples:

Volunteering: Volunteering as an assistant instructor/Instructor, helping at Team 15 or OnBoard activity, committee member or general help in areas such as the galley, with maintenance etc.

Physical: Taking one or more of the RYA National Sailing Scheme, Windsurfing or Sail Cruising Scheme certificates, taking part in regular club racing

Skills: Boat maintenance/repair, rope work, sailing theory, meteorology, or learning/increasing your powerboating skills

The link below will provide you with further generic information:

<http://www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/doing-your-dofe/activities-sections/>

Which sections can I use sailing, windsurfing and powerboat activities for?

Hopefully the above examples show how we can use different areas of RYA activity to count towards the sections of a DofE programme. In general, learning or progressing your sailing or windsurfing is included in the Physical section, while learning or brushing up on your powerboating is included in the Skills section, along with the sailing theory and background you will cover on an RYA Course.

Can I count activities I have done prior to starting my DofE programme?

Yes, you can backdate 1 section for up to 3 months (i.e. Skills for Bronze), providing you meet the minimum age requirements.

While carrying out an activity, could some areas count for different sections?

An activity will only be found listed in one section. Often an activity will include skill elements, whilst the majority of the activity is actually physical and therefore it would be counted in the physical section. If you are learning sailing skills, this would be counted for your Physical section. If, in order to do that, you did a separate amount of time learning about areas such as rope work, meteorology, tides etc, this would be counted for your Skills section. You cannot count one course for 2 sections.

How long do Bronze, Silver and Gold sections need to be?

The following link should help provide information on the criteria and requirements for each DofE level and section <http://www.dofe.org/go/timescales/>

Who can sign my activities off when they are completed?

Once you have decided on the activity and how long you would like to do it for, you will need to identify an assessor for each activity. Other than the Expedition section, where the person must be an Accredited Assessor, the assessor just requires knowledge of the activity and must be impartial (not family). The assessor will need to provide a piece of evidence that they have assessed your activity. They can do this either by completing your Keeping Track booklet, submitting evidence online at www.dofe.org/assessor or a simple letter. Once you have completed the activity for the required timescale, and met the aims agreed with your assessor, you will need to get the activity and evidence approved by your DofE Leader on eDofE. <http://www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/faqs/completing-your-prog/>