



Blairgowrie Open Group

DofE timetable

Below is a summary of how a typical Bronze Award will fit into the school year, along with some key action points at each stage. Please note that these dates are subject to change and should be used as a guideline only.

Anytime Before October

To register for the Award, participants should **contact us via email** and request an info pack with application form. Once you have applied and paid, you will be set up with an online eDofE account and be able to start the award.

You should begin the activities required to complete the Skill, Physical and Volunteering sections. We can help you in choosing appropriate activities

September/October

Attend an evening meeting where we will explain what is involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award. You'll be introduced to your Award Leader, who will be a day to day contact to help support you on all sections of the award.

October to March

Attend the weekly expedition training classes. There will be several sessions at 7:30pm in the run up to your practice day. These usually take place on Wednesdays at the Adult Resource Centre on Jessie St and **attendance will be expected once per week.** By the end of this course, your group will have learned the basic skills in order to be prepared for the training day, and in turn be deemed safe to complete an independent assessment expedition.

March

During this month, we will confirm the expedition groups, and the final payment will be expected by the end of the month. In order to prepare for the expedition, your group must:

- show commitment to the evening classes
- choose an expedition route

- plan the route by preparing a route card and map
- decide on an “aim” or purpose for the expeditions
 - for more info go to <https://www.dofe.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Ideas-for-Expedition-Aims-1.pdf>

End April/Early May

Training day and practice Expedition. During this day a qualified leader will teach you all the things you need to carry out your own expedition. It is up to you to show them you have learned everything, if they are in any doubt regarding your ability to complete the expedition safely, they will not approve your training and you will not be allowed to attend your qualifying expedition.

Mid May

Qualifying Expedition. For this expedition your group will operate “independent and unsupported”. There will be supervisors in the area, but you and your group will be responsible for all major decisions like... Map-reading, cooking, pitching tents, your aim and dealing with any emergencies. The campsite for this is wild and remote, there are no toilets and often no phone signal.

Each group will have a DofE assessor, who is there to ensure you follow the 20 conditions. For an up-to-date record of the 20 conditions, do a google search for “20 conditions of the DofE expedition 2021”

By this point you will be well prepared and know what you need to do. Just make sure you are busy (walking or doing your aim) for at least 6 hours each day. There are no prizes for getting back first, take your time and enjoy the experience.

Completing the Award

In order to complete the Award, each section needs an assessor report, and any other supporting evidence you can find. This includes some or all of the following

- 1) Photos
- 2) A personal report of your experience
- 3) Log sheets
- 4) Media, certificates, or anything else that helps show what you have been doing