



# The adventure begins

Explore and achieve  
with the Scouts and the  
Duke of Edinburgh's Award



**Scouts**



## Doing your DofE Programme

### Are you:

- An Explorer Scout?
- A Scout Network member?
- Up for a challenge?

Then why not do your DofE through the Scouts?

### What is the DofE?

There are three levels of DofE programme; Bronze, Silver and Gold.

To achieve your Award, you must set goals and work towards them in the following sections; Volunteering, Skills, Physical, Expedition and in addition for Gold level only, Residential.

### When can I start?

For all DofE Awards you must be an Explorer Scout or Scout Network member and then meet the minimum age requirements.

**Bronze** - be in the academic year in which you turn 14.

**Silver** - be in the academic year in which you turn 15.

**Gold** - you must be 16.

### What do I need to do?

You will need to agree on an activity for each section and set some goals with your Leader. This might include Scouting activities such as hiking, taking part in staged performances or being an Explorer Scout Young Leader. It may also include hobbies such as dancing, playing a sport or learning a musical instrument. You're probably already doing some activities that could count. It is up to you whether you decide to start something as a beginner or work on an existing interest – as long as you are developing and having fun!

## How long will it take?

The duration of each section can be seen on the following pages (it varies between levels). You must complete an hour a week (or equivalent; such as two hours every two weeks) of your Volunteering, Skill and Physical activity for its duration. All DofE awards must be completed by your 25th birthday.

### But what about my Scouting awards?

There's more good news! Time spent on completing your DofE programme also counts towards your top awards in Scouting. The top awards in Scouting have been carefully aligned with the DofE meaning that if you are working towards one you may as well work towards the other. Information about how the DofE awards and Scouting awards align can be found on the following pages, with more detail also available at

**[members.scouts.org.uk/reachthetop](https://members.scouts.org.uk/reachthetop)**.

If you choose to work towards your Gold DofE Award you can work towards your Queen's Scout Award (QSA) and cross-credit all of the relevant sections. There are just a few more requirements you'll need to complete for the QSA and then you'll have achieved both awards! Both award programmes are highly respected by potential employers, colleges and universities, so the awards are great additions to your CV! Find out more about QSA at **[scouts.org.uk/QSA](https://scouts.org.uk/QSA)**.

## DofE and Scout Awards Levels and Requirements

### Bronze



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
3 months*	3 months*	3 months*	(plan, train for and complete) 2 days and 1 night

\*You also have to do three more months in one of the Volunteering, Physical or Skills sections as one section has to be for a minimum of 6 months.

### Chief Scout's Platinum Award (Explorer Scouts only)

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:



- Be a member of Explorer Scouts for at least six months.
- Complete six nights away, four of which must be camping.
- Complete two activities from the International, Community and Values (ICV) list available online at [scouts.org.uk/icvplatinum](https://scouts.org.uk/icvplatinum). Each activity should be from a different area.

### Silver



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
6 months	One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months		(plan, train for and complete) 3 days and 2 nights

If you didn't complete your Bronze DofE Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 6 months. This will make one section a minimum of 12 months.

### Chief Scout's Diamond Award (Explorer Scouts and Scout Network)

If you didn't complete your Bronze DofE Award or your Chief Scout's Platinum Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section for which you are already doing for 6 months. This will make one section a minimum of 12 months.



In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 12 months. Complete twelve nights away, eight of which must be camping. This may include the nights counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum Award.
- Complete four activities (or two if you have completed your Chief Scout's Platinum Award) from the ICV list available online at [scouts.org.uk/icvdiamond](https://scouts.org.uk/icvdiamond). This should be at least one activity from each area.

## Gold



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months		(plan, train for and complete) 4 days and 3 nights	Take part in a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights

If you didn't complete your Silver DofE Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 12 months. This will make one section a minimum of 18 months.

### Queen's Scout Award (Explorer Scouts aged 16+ and Scout Network)



If you haven't completed your Silver DofE Award or your Chief Scout's Diamond Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 12 months. This will make one section a minimum of 18 months.

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 18 months. Complete 18 nights away, 12 of which must be camping. This may include the nights counted for the Chief Scout's Diamond Award and Chief Scout's Platinum Award.
- Complete six activities (or two if you have completed your Chief Scout's Diamond Award or four if you have only completed your Chief Scout's Platinum Award) from the ICV list available online at [scouts.org.uk/icvqsa](https://scouts.org.uk/icvqsa), two from each area.
- Give a presentation about your award to a suitable audience.

## Ready to get started?

The first step is to decide which level of DofE programme you want to start at and then you need to talk to your Leader or DofE Adviser who can register you for the DofE. If you also plan to work towards your QSA, you should speak to your leaders.

Once registered for DofE, you will receive an eDofE account and a Welcome Pack. It's important that you log into eDofE and keep your account up-to-date, as this is where you will submit your evidence and your Award once it is completed.

From there you will decide on your activities, goals and who your Assessors will be. Then all that's left is to have fun developing new skills and making memories.

## Find out more

Ask your Leader for more information and take a look at [scouts.org.uk/dofe](https://scouts.org.uk/dofe) and [DofE.org](https://dofe.org).

For more information about your Scouting Awards, visit [members.scouts.org.uk/reachthetop](https://members.scouts.org.uk/reachthetop).