

It's clear that the long-lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic may mean Licensed Organisations face barriers in delivering 'traditional' expeditions for some time. To help, we've introduced a number of temporary changes to our expedition requirements that are in effect until 31 December 2022.

Temporary programme changes

- Expedition Assessors for Silver and Gold can be known to the group.
- Expedition terrain requirements have been relaxed; all expeditions can be completed in your local area.
- Bronze participants who are progressing to Silver can use their Silver practice expedition as their Bronze qualifying expedition (two days and two nights). Similarly, Silver participants who are progressing to Gold can use their Gold practice expedition as their Silver qualifying expedition (three days and two nights).
- Motorised transport can be used between start/finish points and the camp site/indoor accommodation.
- At Silver and Gold, practice and qualifying expeditions can be back-to-back.
- Teams at all Award levels are allowed to return home to sleep during their expedition.

For more information on the temporary expedition changes, including our expeditions in restricted outdoor spaces model, please visit DofE.org/DofEWithADifference.

Existing programme flexibilities

- Think about running project-focused expeditions with fewer hours of journeying, which may be more suitable in the autumn.
- Indoor accommodation can be used at all levels. Reach out to local groups to find out more about their facilities, such as community centres or school halls.
- Presentations (at Silver and Gold) can be delivered at any point after the expedition. Alternatively keep them simple so they can be delivered directly at the end of the venture before the journey home.
- If you have participants who recently left your school/college, consider whether they can still join you for an [expedition this academic year](#).



Travel and location

- Stay local – walk from your school or centre site (where possible) to minimise transport and avoid busy areas.
- Avoid well used and popular routes in consideration of landowners - demand is likely to be high in the autumn and next spring.

Planning

- Encourage new and existing members of staff to get trained up via our virtual courses. Please visit your local [DofE office pages](#) for details.
- Consider 'linking up' with another centre; it may be you can pool Assessors or equipment (as long as you're not going out on the same dates).
- Get teams up to speed with expedition training using online resources and eMapping.

Remember that participants can be enrolled at the next level of Award before achieving their current level.

Encourage your participants to complete their Volunteering, Physical and Skills section so that they can enrol on the next level whilst their Bronze (or Silver) expeditions are rearranged.

Any participant who has enrolled since 1 June 2018 and goes on to complete their Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections before 31 December 2022 will receive a [DofE Certificate of Achievement](#).

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