



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Exmoor Countryside Etiquette

The DofE Expedition section is reliant on the goodwill of rural communities. We need to show consideration and courtesy for the rural way of life if we are to be welcomed. Please use this guide when planning expeditions and check the access information relevant to each wild country area prior to planning your route.

Gates

- When passing over farmland, please ensure all gates are closed unless they have been securely tied open.
- As a group, please communicate to the last person in the group whether the gate was found open or closed.
- Ideally the person who opens the gate should wait for the whole group to pass through and shut it behind them.

Litter

- All litter must be taken home and not dropped along the way.
- If using checkpoint cards ensure all are collected before you leave the area.

Parking

- Please use public car parks not private driveways or verges.
- Please do not arrange multiple drop offs on a small country road or in a small village.
- Always ensure you pay the appropriate parking fees.

Noise

- Please remind participants to be quiet on camp sites. Badly behaved, noisy groups can put camp sites off hosting DofE groups altogether.
- MP3 players and speakers should be used responsibly and inline with your organisation's policies.

Footpaths

- Participants should try to avoid climbing over walls and fences as these are easily damaged and can have major implications for land owners.
- Remind participants not to sit or walk in the centre of the road! Country lanes may appear quiet but people do have a tendency to drive fast on them.

Facilities

- Do not use camp site or other private facilities (e.g. toilets or parking) unless you are a paying customer.
- Do not use sheep pens as camp sites or toilets etc as these are used regularly by local farmers.
- Please refer to our website for access issues DofE.org/run