

Funding for **SCHOOLS**



INFORMATION FOR
PROSPECTIVE SCHOOLS



Funded by
UK Government



What is DofE?

The Department for Education and The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport have committed over £7m to offer funding to all state schools across England that do not currently offer the DofE to launch their own programmes, so that more young people than ever have the opportunity to benefit from the DofE.

Your school is eligible to receive funding to setup its DofE programme, combined with bespoke support from our operations teams to guide you through the process every step of the way.

- ➔ A life-changing experience. A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognised mark of achievement; respected by employers.
- ➔ 14-24 year-olds can do a DofE programme at one of three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, leads to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- ➔ There are four sections to complete at Bronze and Silver level and five at Gold. They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition and, for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity.
- ➔ Any young person can do their DofE – regardless of ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award isn't a competition or about being first. It's all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.



Why should we offer DofE?

► Welcome to the DofE

For the hundreds of thousands of young people who take part each year, the benefits of achieving a DofE Award at any level are endless:

- Young people develop a whole range of important life skills such as resilience, confidence, commitment, drive, self-awareness, empathy, team working and problem solving.
- Achieving the Award improves young people's further or higher education prospects, opening the door to jobs.
- Students often develop positive relationships with teachers outside the classroom, benefiting their wider school life.
- Students also give their time freely through volunteering, bringing positive benefits to themselves, their school and the wider community.
- Taking part helps level the playing field where any young person, of any ability, can start their DofE programme.
- The Award is recommended by Ofsted as a quality enrichment programme as part of their guidance for schools.



What are we offering?

We are offering a financial grant to eligible schools like yours to make DofE more widely available and accessible, increasing the number and diversity of young people who can access a DofE programme.

“ We're a school in Salford in one of the most deprived areas in the UK. There's a lot of challenges - gang culture, a high level of poverty and unemployment. I tried a few times to establish a DofE group at the school but it always came back to finances. Fortunately, last year the DfE gave us £5,810 which took the barrier away as many of our students wouldn't feel comfortable asking their parents.

The DofE is a really good way of building positive relationships outside the classroom. What I love most about running the DofE is working with the young people and watching them blossom and evolve into these very confident, very skilled, very articulate young people. It's an absolute privilege to see such a massive improvement.”

Emily Williams – DofE Leader and Creative Art and Design Teacher at Oasis Academy in Media City, Salford.



“ I’m passionate about DofE because I want to make a difference, I want them to be successful. It’s all about pushing them forward and giving them more opportunities. This is a deprived area and we’ve lost a lot of big local employers – the four shipyards that each used to take 50 apprentices every year have now gone. Lowestoft used to have a lot of fishing and trawlers but that’s gone right down too. The DofE is about pushing them forward and making them more employable. Secondly, it’s about life skills, teaching them independence and how to do things for themselves. We see them come in, shy little things and go out of the door very different and that’s a lot to do with DofE, it moulds them, shapes them to go out into the big wide world with confidence.”

**Peter Read, DofE Manager, Engineering teacher
at East Coast College**

“ South Shore Academy in Blackpool is in an area where we have lots of deprivation. The DofE is an amazing opportunity for students to access activities that they wouldn’t be able to do otherwise due to lack of income in their families. The impact is unbelievable. A transformation for some students who joined us with low confidence and low self-esteem now taking assemblies and running their own clubs. It’s amazing.”

“I think it’s really important that we have DofE on offer alongside the mainstream curriculum as students are all individuals and they learn differently. And I think giving those opportunities to all students will make everybody a better individual.”

**Amy Leach, DofE Lead,
Blackpool South Shore Academy**





How long is this project on offer?

This project will run across four academic years



Academic Years
2021-22



2022-23



2023-24



2024-25

The sooner you apply, the more funding your school can access.



How much is the funding for and what can it be used for?

Eligible schools can apply for funding to support with the following:



Licence fee support



Bronze, Silver and/or Gold Participation Places



Expedition equipment

Your Operations Officer will be able to advise on how much funding you are eligible for.

How do we apply for funding?

Schools apply for funding through a grant application, completed by an Operations Officer working closely with you to obtain the necessary information.

➔ Please apply for funding by contacting your local Operations Officer or by emailing accesswithoutlimits@dofe.org

Next steps...

Step 1

Initial meeting - learn more about licensing with the DofE, the benefits for your students and what funding is available.

Step 2

Your Operations Officer completes the funding application on your behalf.

Step 3

Develop your Action Plan.

Step 4

Deliver your DofE programme.

Step 5

Complete your annual monitoring report.

Step 6

Apply for the following year's funding.



The DofE in numbers

April 2022 - March 2023

537,759 Young people actively doing their DofE



323,676

Young people started their DofE journey



3,541,707

Total volunteering hours given by young people



£17,035,611

Estimated total value of volunteering hours given in support of others

29.9%

Of 14 year olds in the UK started a Bronze DofE



38,888

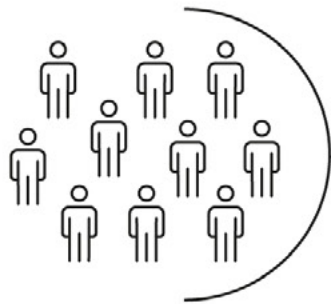
Leaders and volunteers delivering DofE programmes



4,520

Licensed Organisations actively delivering the DofE

Awards started by young people facing marginalisation



49,680 (15.3%)

Experiencing poverty

81,460 (25.2%)

From minority ethnic backgrounds

22,456 (6.9%)

Have additional needs

AWARDS STARTED



228,251 Bronze



70,942 Silver



24,483 Gold



144,919

Awards were achieved

11



FUNDING FOR SCHOOLS
INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE SCHOOLS



ACCESS WITHOUT LIMITS

accesswithoutlimits@dofe.org



Funded by UK Government