

What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of activities for anyone aged 14-25. Doing their DofE gives young people the opportunity to experience new activities or develop existing skills. There are three progressive levels of programmes which when successfully completed lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. Young people create their own DofE programme by choosing a volunteering, physical and skills activity, going on an expedition and, for their Gold award only, taking part in a residential activity.

What is the RYA's involvement?

The RYA is now a Licenced Organisation responsible for the administration of DofE and the authorisation of awards, and enabling RYA Training Centres to apply to become DofE Centres under the RYA's licence.

We have had young people approach us to do their DofE activity in the past, what has changed?

Previously you may have signed off sections of a participants award, however they would have had to be enrolled with a DofE Centre, e.g. a school or youth group. As a DofE centre you can offer full DofE programmes to young people not already doing their DofE elsewhere.

What are the benefits to becoming an RYA DofE Centre?

You can offer full DofE programmes (Volunteering, Physical , Skills, Expeditions and Residential (at Gold)), to young people already engaged with your Training Centre, and also encourage new people to become involved with your club or centre through their DofE activities.

How do we become a DofE Centre through the RYA?

You need be recognised as an RYA Training Centre, then simply complete and return the DofE Centre Application: [Centre Application](#)

How much does it cost to be an RYA DofE centre?

The initial application fee is £80 and this will be payable annually whilst you remain an RYA DofE Centre.

What do Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards entail and how much input are we required to do as a centre?

There are three levels of programme, which when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The main differences between them are the minimum length of time it takes to complete them, how challenging it is and the minimum age you can start. The following link should help explain this further: [DofE Section Requirements](#)

Both participants and leaders use the eDofE online portal to track activity and monitor the progress of the award. When complete this will be submitted to the RYA to authorise the award.

What training or qualifications are required to run DofE activities?

Your nominated DofE Co-ordinator will need to complete the free, online eDofE induction course before applying to become a DofE Centre. They will also need to complete the one day DofE Introduction Course within 6 months of your registration as an RYA DofE Centre. Details of both these courses can be found here: www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/leaders/training/ Instructors or other volunteers at your centre acting in a specific DofE role may need to undergo further training, details can be found here: [Qualification Requirements](#)

Selecting activities - how can sailing and boating count towards the DofE sections?

There are a number of activities we are all already carrying out during the daily running of our centres and clubs that can a young person can get involved with and count towards their DofE programme. Here are a few examples. The link below will provide you with further generic information: www.dofe.org/en/content/cms/doing-your-dofe/activities-sections/



RYA Duke of Edinburgh FAQs



Volunteering: Volunteering as an assistant instructor/Instructor, helping at Team 15 or OnBoard activity, committee member or general help in areas such as the galley, with maintenance etc.

Skills: Boat maintenance/repair, ropework, sailing theory, meteorology, or learning/increasing your powerboating skills

Physical: Taking one or more of the RYA National Sailing Scheme, Windsurfing or Sail Cruising Scheme certificates, taking part in regular club racing

Who can deliver DofE expeditions?

If you are a DofE centre, you can deliver the Expedition section to young people doing their DofE programme with you. All expeditions must be submitted to the RYA for approval. To offer the Expedition section to young people doing their DofE elsewhere, you would need to apply to become an Approved Activity Provider direct with DofE. Please contact RYA Training for more information.

We have had someone contact us to do part of their DofE activity with us, what do we do next?

If they are registered to do their DofE elsewhere and want to do one of their sections (Volunteering, Physical, Skills or Residential) through your club, you simply act as the assessor for that section and sign off their progress and achievements at the end. If they want to do their Expedition section with you, you would need to become an Approved Activity Provider (AAP).