



Dear Varndean families

Year 10 DofE Award

Thank you for bearing with me while I liaised with colleagues at the DofE team and assessed the best way to fulfil our commitments towards our year 10 students and enable them to complete the Bronze award that they have started. This update sets out our plans for the next 9 months or so.

From the feedback you have provided and the information I have about activity on the eDofE app students tend to fall into three categories:

1. Have completed or very nearly completed the Skill, Volunteering and Physical sections of the award and want to complete the expedition quickly so they can progress to the Silver award this year.
2. Have made good progress on the non-expedition sections and want to complete the expedition and secure their Bronze award.
3. Have made some progress on the non-expedition elements but have quite a lot of work still to do / evidence to upload on these sections.

In making these plans I have tried to identify different pathways for each of these categories of students and tried to take account of the flexibilities currently offered by DofE. These flexibilities [#DofEWithADifference](#), have been introduced because up and down the country progress through the award has been disrupted for so many students due to the pandemic.

The DofE has also introduced a [Certificate of Achievement](#) (CoA) for any participant who completes their Volunteering, Physical and Skills section by December 2022.

Pathway 1 - FastTrack to Silver	Pathway 2 - Completing Bronze	Pathway 3 – Completing CoA only
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non expedition elements completed and signed off by March 31st 2022, • CoA achieved • Registration completed for Silver award April 2022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non expedition elements completed and signed off by March 31st 2022. • CoA achieved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non expedition elements signed off by July 2022. • CoA achieved • No expedition required

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<p><i>(or earlier if CoA complete)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silver practice expedition May/June 2022 (see note below) • Bronze Award complete • Silver qualifying expedition July 2022 • Students begin meeting requirements of Silver award May 2022 onwards <i>(or as soon as enrolled)</i>. • Silver graduation Spring 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for the Bronze expedition April and May 2022 (see note below) • Bronze qualifying expedition May - September 2022. • Graduation Autumn 2022 	
<p>Notes: The DofE are allowing students who want to progress to Silver to do so without having completed a Bronze expedition. The Silver Practice expedition can also count as the Bronze Qualifying so pupils' Bronze Award will be complete.</p>	<p>Notes: A practice expedition is not required at Bronze but students will need to complete the necessary training in preparation for the Bronze qualifying expedition.</p>	

Whichever pathway students are on the key message is that they should be focussing on completing their Skill, Volunteering or Physical sections, uploading their planners for these sections on eDofE and when complete obtaining their assessor reports. A section cannot be completed if the information is not added to eDofE and there is no assessor report. As a reminder an assessor report can be obtained two ways: -

1. Written on the Assessor Report card found in the Welcome Pack, a photo taken and uploaded on eDofE.
2. Via the DofE Assessor Portal www.edofe/assessor . To use this site the assessor will require the students eDofE ID number, the section and level they are assessing.

Other evidence can also be uploaded such as diary entries, photos etc but the final report must come from the assessor (who cannot be a member of the family). For further information about assessors please look here: <https://www.dofe.org/do/assessors/>

The next steps:

Families should discuss with their children these pathways in the light of what has been achieved so far.

I will meet with all students shortly after Christmas to explain the situation to them.



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I will then send all participants a google form to complete so we can plan based on the intentions of the students

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to make contact.

Kind regards

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