

WHAT IS THE DOFE?

The DofE remains the most popular young person's accreditation pathway, it is recognised and respected by employers, further education establishments and Universities.

DofE is a programme of activities put together by you. You decide on what you would like to do, set your own targets and decide on the timeframe.

The DofE programme is available across West Berkshire and is for young people aged 14 (or school Year 9 if younger) – 25 and is available in 3 levels;

Bronze 14+ or school year 9 (takes at least 6 months)

Silver 15+ or school year 10 (takes at least 6 – 12 months)

Gold 16+ (takes at least 12 - 18 months)

It is possible to enter at a higher level if age allows but one activity will need to be over a longer period of time.

You will need to spend approximately an hour a week for the required amount of time on each of the 3 sections. You do not have to do all 3 sections at the same time! Your individualised programme will engage you in;

Volunteering: Make a difference within your community or school or to an individual's life: help out with a community project, playgroup, the elderly, animals or a Charity.

Physical: Enjoy a new or existing sport/dance activity to improve your fitness and develop a healthy lifestyle through participation.

Skills: Develop useful practical and social skills and personal interests. There are so many that you can choose, from Performing Arts to Personal Safety, check the DofE website to see the list of activities (look in 'doing your award' then select the 'skills' button).

Expedition: Plan and train for an adventurous journey as part of a team, camping for at least 1 night and exploring the countryside for two weekends on a practice expedition and an assessed expedition. The DofE expedition costs are payable at the time of the event, the *approximate* prices for the weekends away are;

Practice Weekend	Bronze £55	Silver £75
Assessed Weekend	Bronze £60	Silver £80

And at Gold level only you need to do a Residential: Work with people you don't know, who are usually from different backgrounds, and bring alternative views to the challenges you will face. The Residential section broadens your experiences by empowering you to make a difference in a team-based residential setting.

COST & HOW TO APPLY

The cost of your DofE depends on what you decide to do. Your DofE leader will be able to help you apply for local grants which *may* contribute to the cost of some parts of your programme and the Expedition cost highlighted above.

The **2017/2018** cost to register with the DofE and to receive a logbook is;

£41 Bronze	£51 Silver	£68 Gold.
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Please complete the enrolment form with cash or a cheque made payable to '**St Bartholomew School**' and return it to Linnhe Lay in person or send it to; The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, West Berkshire Council, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD, or on any day give it to Mrs Tucker in Room W114.

To find out more about the DofE view the following websites; St Bart's School under Activities/Extra Curriculum Opportunities. www.westberks.gov.uk, www.dofe.org or contact Linnhe on linnhe.lay@westberks.gov.uk TEL: 07775 031208 or 01635 503413

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Isn't this a lot of extra work and how will I ever be able to fit it into my studies?

You set your own programme to fit into your own timescale. It's not a race to complete and you have until you are 25 years old. It is also possible to change your activities if you need to. Your choice of activity can also help further your studies but cannot be used towards coursework for an exam subject in school.

How do we do our Expedition?

Your DofE Leader will contact you to discuss your expedition and will organise training and expedition weekends. Also an expedition can also take place on; foot, cycling, horseback or canoe!

Doesn't it cost a lot of money to do the DofE Award?

The cost of your DofE depends on what you decide to choose, some have no costs or if you are already attending a music lesson (for example) your normal charges will apply.

There are costs associated with the Expedition Section, these costs will cover the; trainers, venue, campsite, equipment hire etc. Expedition costs will be explained by your expedition leader when the Expedition dates are set.

Pupils entitled to Pupil Premium may be able to use this money for their DofE Award. There are also local grants to which young people can apply to subsidise their DofE programme.

Where do I meet my DofE Leader?

Your DofE Leader is Linnhe Lay and you can meet her every Thursday lunch time room W213, so please feel free to pop in and see her! You can also contact her on 07775 031208 or linnhe.lay@westberks.gov.uk

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

St Bart's
School
2017/2018

