

July 2024 Newsletter



Somerset
Council



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ANNUAL STATISTICS 2023-24

A record number of young people started their Duke of Edinburgh's Award in 2023/24 for the third year running – as we continue our work to widen access and remove barriers to participation.

Our annual statistics reveal that **330,984** young people started their DofE, with participants giving a huge **4,725,825** million hours of volunteering in communities all over the UK as part of their programmes – a huge leap of **33%** on 2022/23!

More than **545,000** young people are actively doing their DofE, and **30%** of 14-year-olds in the UK started their Bronze last year. The number of new Gold Award starts jumped by a huge **16.6%**, with Awards achieved also up by **7%** to more than **155,000**.

[Annual Statistics 2023-24 - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://dofe.org/annual-statistics-2023-24)

Full report on this link

Amazing Volunteering Hours

- Thank you to all leaders, volunteers, support staff, the ops team
- Your input in supporting our participants across the county is making a real difference to many community groups and charities
- Amazing numbers
- Please display your individual centre ones, post on social media and share the results



Thank you

to
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants
from
Somerset Council

who spent
46358 Hours

volunteering between
1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024.

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement
of young people making an impact in their community.

The social value of these hours is
£244719

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Ruth Marvel, Chief Executive

June 2024

eDofE Support Sessions

We have a series of eDofE Support Sessions available **free** to Adults within DofE Licensed Organisations across England. These sessions will support you to maximize the eDofE system and streamline your work to enable positive outcomes for young people.

Part 1 – eDofE for Leaders

This session covers - Explore your Leader account profile and settings - Introduction to Leader and participant accounts - Password retrieval – Explore the 'Communications' area in eDofE - Explore the 'Manage participants' area to support participant progress - Participant overview - Manage alerts - Approve and query sections - Directly approve - Assessor reports - Add evidence - Expedition set-up.

Part 2 – eDofE for Managers

This session covers - Creating a new group - Creating new adults - Explore adult permissions - Create cohort - Create participants - Add next level - Explore how to move participants - Explore the reporting suite - Good practice eDofE housekeeping.

eDofE Mapping

This session covers - Explore the new e-mapping system and how to use this effectively to support participants - Planning and plotting a route in e-mapping - Creating a route card in e-mapping.

To book: <https://www.dofe.org/notice-board/england/training/>



**YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS**



Free online sessions

- [Click Here](#) – for the link to book

Please Nominate a YP / Adult if there is someone who you think deserves recognition



- **This is Youth 2024** recognises and celebrates the amazing stories behind the DofE. It showcases young people and the adults who support them doing what they do best: rising above today's challenges and making their mark on the world, their way. Each DofE journey is unique – and every person will be making a difference
- [This is youth 2024: nominate - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://dofe.org/nominate)
- [This is Youth 2024: Categories - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://dofe.org/categories)

THIS IS YOUTH 2024

A celebration of the amazing things young people achieve through their DofE,
and the adults who support them.

Changes to the Expedition Route Card on eMapping

The summary of the changes to the layout:

- Removed 'Today days' and 'Day no', and added 'Setting out time', 'Start point' and 'Start GR'
- Removed 'Expedition level'
- Changed 'Journey time' to 'Leg time'
- Removed the 'Escape notes' column and merged it into the 'Leg description' column
- Removed the bearings column
- Added 'Emergency plan' box
- Moved 'Supervisor's name, location, and tel no' box
- Change 'Activity for your aim' to 'Activity for your goal'
- Headings across multiple pages

How the new layout looks:



Expedition route card (use one per day)

Aim of the Expedition: To study the history of the town, with focus on the street layout				Name of group and contact details: Team Blue Group 1				Team Name: Blue Team			
Date: 10-05-2024		Setting out time: 10:00		Estimated travelling speed (km/h): 4				Names of team members: Jo Nathan Sam Alex Chris Sally			
Day of the week: Thursday		Start GR: ---		Start Point: ---							
Leg	Grid reference & Description	Distance (km)	Height climbed (m)	Leg time	Project start	End	Total leg duration	SEA	Leg description / Escape route	Activity for your goal	
1	To SA 508 701 Tynagh Road junction	0.31	0.57	10 min	0 min	0 min	10 min	1000	Take footpath straight ahead through Rye Park and keep following footpath. Through GOLF course to the left.	---	
2	To SA 507 716 Railway Crossing	1.13	18.64	20 min	0 min	10 min	30 min	1100	Cross railway line and continue to the road. Follow the path to left to back of houses then to road.	During the rest, make notes of the town's current history, and of the current weather status.	
3	To SA 547 322 Leicester Lane	2.81	160.12	1 h 13 min	0 min	40 min	1 h 42 min	1200	Follow footpath into town and follow it to the end of the road. Turn left to the road.	During the rest, make notes of the town's current history, and of the current weather status.	
4	To SA 535 718 Barnes Road	1.42	53.25	25 min	0 min	0 min	30 min	1200	Cross Road and go up hill into the park. Follow the path to the end of the road.	---	
5	To SA 542 097 Newtown United Car Park	0.30	126.67	10 min	0 min	30 min	1 h 25 min	1000	Finish at the car park where there are toilets.	Make notes of the town's history at the end of the day, and of the current weather status.	
TOTAL:		5.97	298.55	2 h 18 min	0 min	1 h 30 min	4 h 18 min	Notes: ---			
Emergency Plan: ---				Supervisor name, phone number and location: Charlotte Smith - 07900 123456							

More - [Here](#)



Sectional Certificates are now available

You and your participants can now easily view, download and print Award certificates and sectional certificates to celebrate with at events and assemblies. As Leaders, you're best placed to decide if the Certificate of Achievement, is the right fit for your young people, so you'll also now have the flexibility to do this through eDofE to acknowledge progress and hard work where you think it's appropriate.

For more information about how to navigate the new pages, take a look

[Sectional Certificates - Adults – DofE \(edofe.org\)](https://edofe.org/sectional-certificates-adults)

A screenshot of the 'Sectional Certificates' filter interface in the eDofE system. The interface is divided into three main sections: Location, User Details, and Section Status. The Location section has filters for Region (Training), LO (PR test), Centre (bimbap), Group (All), and Status (Current). The User Details section has filters for ID Number, First Name, Surname, and Level (All). The Section Status section has filters for Volunteering, Physical, Skill, Expedition, and Residential. A Subgroup filter is also present at the bottom left.

Sectional Certificates

Choose from the filters below to create a list of the participants you wish to view. You can choose from all three options to view a group, subgroup or individual

Location	User Details	Section Status
Region: Training	ID Number	☒ Volunteering
LO: PR test	First Name	☐ Physical
Centre: bimbap	Surname	☐ Skill
Group: (All)	Level: (All)	☐ Expedition
Status: (Current)		☐ Residential

Subgroup

Subgroup: Please select...

TROOPING OF THE COLOUR



The Levels School



“
I had an amazing day out watching the Trooping of the Colour. My Favourite bit was all the soldiers walking by, and I got to see London.
”

“
I had a great day out watching the Trooping of the Colour.
”

“
I enjoyed watching Trooping of the colour in London and seeing the horses walking down The Mall. I enjoyed seeing all the guards and hearing them play the anthem.
”

Photos of our day in London watching Trooping of the Colours



Trooping of the Colour

As you will recall all centres were given the opportunity to attend, The Levels School and Pyrland School took on the challenge and had an amazing day. Many thanks to the Lord Lieutenants Office for allowing DofE to attend

Bursary Forms

[Duke of Edinburgh's Award | Support Services for Education](#)

This is where the latest bursary forms are always held, please use up to date versions where possible.

Group and Individual forms

Please consider applications and whether your centre can support your YP – we are spending more than we are being given, so at the current rate, have less than two years of finance left!

So, if PP is available, I would be great if you can use towards the award!

Also, maybe a good cause for fundraising as a volunteering section – helping disadvantaged YP access the award.....

The screenshot shows the 'Support Services for Education' website. The header includes the logo and navigation links: 'What's What', 'Purchase & Access', 'News & Events', 'Store', 'Training', 'Communication', and 'Resources'. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large banner for the 'Duke of Edinburgh's Award' with the text 'The world's most successful youth development programme'. Below the banner, there is a section titled 'What we do?' which lists various activities and support services. On the right side, there is a 'Useful Links' section with links to 'DfE Website', 'DfE Resources', 'DfE Online Education', 'DfE Events', and 'DfE Education E-Book'. Below this is a 'Documents' section with links to 'Bursary Form for YP (14-18) (DfE) (2018) (10 Nov 22 Apr)' and 'Bursary Form for YP (14-18) (DfE) (2018) (10 Nov 22 Apr)'. At the bottom, there is a 'Testimonials' section with a quote from a young person.



Expedition Guide - Online

- The new digital Expedition Guide is here! the new digital version is designed to be more user-friendly and easier to navigate – and it's now FREE! Plus, with the switch to digital, we can easily keep the guide up to date.
- Please familiarise yourself with the new guide and refer to it when preparing to work with DofE groups to plan upcoming expeditions. Please also share the guide with any team members whose roles involve planning DofE expeditions. It contains everything you need to know to support young people to complete their expedition safely and successfully.
- [How to run DofE expeditions - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award](#)

Campsite - Mendips

- info@mendipcamp.co.uk
- The web site is www.mendipcamp.co.uk
- Our address is Carscliff Farm,
Top road, Cheddar. BS27 3YL
- Ginny mobile 07813841078.



Incident Reporting

All organisations delivering DofE commit to reporting certain incidents and issues to the charity through their licence agreement. To find out what incidents need to be reported, and to access the incident report form, please visit the website:

[Incidents - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award \(dofe.org\)](https://www.dofe.org/Incidents)



When to Report

- Involves cooking and fires, road safety, or rivers and water safety (as part of the Expedition section)
- Results in deliberate damage to property or conflict with another party (e.g. a landowner)
- Results in the involvement of the emergency services (police, fire, ambulance, mountain rescue or coastguard), or requires professional medical treatment
- Doesn't cause harm, but had the potential to do so
- Results in, or is likely to result in, local or national press attention
- Results in a life changing or major injury
- Involves any criminal activity

Bath And West Residential

- Another amazing show where 20 young people completed their Gold Residential, coming from all areas of the country – only one was from Somerset, showing how young people don't stay in county for this key section of their award.
- Thanks to SSE Outdoors for running and the volunteers for helping out
- A great success and roll on 2025!



New Youth Club for YP with SEND – Please Share



in the mix project

THE HIVE SEND YOUTH CLUB +

TAKE PART IN OUR NEW MONTHLY YOUTH CLUB FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES, PARENTS AND CARERS WELCOME



JOIN US EVERY 3RD SATURDAY · 10:00AM-1:00PM
FOR AGES 13-25 · £2 WEEKLY SUBS
@ THE HUB CENTRE, WIVELISCOMBE TA4 2NE

PLEASE CONTACT US TO DISCUSS A PLACE FOR YOUR YOUNG PERSON, FULL DATES PROVIDED

for more information about HIVE, contact Jem Lay
jemma.lay@inthemixproject.org.uk
or 07506 800363

WWW.INTHEMIXPROJECT.ORG.UK
@INTHEMIXPROJECT



in the mix project

THE HIVE SEND YOUTH CLUB

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TAKE PART IN OUR NEW MONTHLY YOUTH CLUB FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES, PARENTS AND CARERS WELCOME

SATURDAY 27TH APRIL 2024
SATURDAY 25TH MAY 2024
SATURDAY 22ND JUNE 2024
SATURDAY 20TH JULY 2024
SATURDAY 17TH AUGUST 2024
SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2024
SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2024
SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2024

10:00AM-12:30PM · FOR AGES 13-25 · £2 WEEKLY SUBS
@ THE HUB CENTRE, WIVELISCOMBE TA4 2NE

WWW.INTHEMIXPROJECT.ORG.UK
@INTHEMIXPROJECT

Funding

There are opportunities for our centres, to find support – as shown by Fairmead School below





Glyn Lancey
Wells Cathedral School



Andrew Shaw
The Blue School



Karen Seib
Holyrood Academy

Celebrating Leaders

We love celebrating our leaders, assessors and helpers. If you know someone who is in line for a 5 / 10/ 15 / 20 / 25 / 30-year certificate – or more!

Please let us know



Leaders Meetings 2024

As part of the license agreement, your Centre has agreed to attend at least one Leaders meeting during the financial year

Next Meeting Dates

28th Nov - Teams – 2-4pm

Invites will be sent in September

Naturally, we would love to see you at all leaders' meetings – but please always let us know if attending



Anyone for Squash - at the Wyvern Taunton



Duke of Edinburgh Squash

Every Monday 4pm - 5pm

at Wyvern Squash Club

Volunteering opportunities available with Green Days Day Care (pictured above)

Did you know... Squash will be a new Olympic Sport in 2028?
We plan to offer it as a Duke of Edinburgh Award option starting in the new academic year.

What's on Offer?

- Equipment provided (rackets, balls, goggles)
- A ball feeding machine available for you to use on our show court
- Coaches on hand to help out
- Small groups of 8 players per session

Why choose Squash for DofE?

- Use for; Volunteering, Physical or Skill sections
- It's a great participation sport & good for stress!
- You could gain an England Young Leaders Squash certification

Bring clean trainers to change into at the courts and don't forget your water bottle.

Book a space! Email kalsadler@outlook.com, £7 per session (payable on the day)



Wyvern Club, Mountfields Road, Taunton, TA1 3BJ

www.letsplaysquash.com

Bronze / Silver /
Gold Open
Expedition - do
you have any YP
that need just
one expedition
to complete an
award



DofE Open Gold Expeditions Package
— Qualifier or Practice only- July



DofE Open Silver Package — Qualifier
or Practice Only- July 2024



DofE Open Bronze Expeditions
Package — August 2024

All available on [SSE Outdoors](#)



DofE Gold Residential – Charterhouse
28 October – 1 November 2024

£280.00



DofE Gold Residential – Bath and
West Show – 28 May to 1 June 2025

£240.00



Please share details
with your Golds

[SSE Outdoors](#)

Gold Residentials 2024/2025

Website [Here](#)

DofE Dates for your Calendar

Early July – Certificate Run

29th July – Kilve Gold Residential

28th October – Charterhouse Gold Residential

28th November – Leaders Meeting - Teams

Early Dec – Certificate Run

Social Media

Please follow us on

- [Twitter](#) or X if you prefer!

We would love you to share your DofE stories to our site and celebrate your success.

