

Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions

The expedition is an integral part of every DofE award and is designed to develop teamwork, confidence and leadership skills. There are four phases involved in completing this section: training; practice expedition; assessed expedition and presentation and the duration varies by award level. Students must complete all parts of the section in sequence. This means that if the practice is missed, the student cannot complete the assessed expedition.

Phase 1: Training

The training introduces/refreshes the skills required for a safe and successful expedition and enables the training team to identify the particular needs of any student to complete the expeditions. Attendance at classroom sessions is mandatory as training elements need to be signed off as complete. There will also be a practical training weekend in October.

Phase 2: Practice Expedition

Students' progress to completing a journey with more independence and 'arm's length' supervision, being met occasionally during the day but predominately walking as an independent group. They will travel through terrain similar to their assessed expedition and staff will camp at the same site as students, or close by. This practice expedition will determine whether the group has the necessary skills to take part in their assessed expedition. Further training or practice may be required.

Phase 3: Assessed Expedition

Assessment groups are required to be self-sufficient and are remotely supervised. They will travel as independent groups throughout and be met at each campsite. Assessors monitor their progress and ensure the group meet the 20 conditions of a DofE expedition. Group supervisors will camp in the same area as the students.

Phase 4: Presentation

During their assessed expeditions, groups are required to complete an aim, a purpose for their journey. Once they return, they must present their findings to an audience. Once this has been completed, the section can be signed off.

Find out more about the Expedition Section from the DofE website [here](#).