



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD



START YOUR **JOURNEY** WITH US



WHY CHOOSE ADVENTUROUS HORIZONS FOR YOUR DOFE PROGRAMME?

- ✓ Our passion for helping young people learn about themselves through the challenges of expeditions.
- ✓ Qualified and experienced staff who bring their passion for outdoor sports and spaces to their work.
- ✓ An Approved Activity Provider by DofE and HSE.
- ✓ Running DofE expeditions for over a decade.
- ✓ Provide full development programmes for 14 to 140 participants, Bronze to Gold.
- ✓ Provide modern team equipment, navigation tools and safety equipment.
- ✓ Provide wide range of support resources for school, participants and parents.
- ✓ Highest standards with competitive pricing.





Before founding Adventurous Horizons, I had already spent 20 years school teaching, undertaking numerous outdoor sports qualifications, coaching others and carrying out my own walking and kayaking expeditions throughout the world.

Challenges within the Great Outdoors continue to inspire me - almost as much as helping others during the first steps of their own journeys. It's taken years to fine tune the ability to help others appreciate and embrace the transformative benefits of the great outdoors.

The physical and mental challenges experienced during our Duke of Edinburgh expeditions are varied and help a young person develop, personal responsibility, interpersonal skills and self esteem. All important attributes as they journey towards adulthood.

My staff share my passion for helping the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts start their own journey. We can appreciate the challenges faced by participants on our expeditions and so bring empathy and enthusiasm to our teaching. We have an educational, nurturing ethos that is infused into everything we do.

It is our hope that participants go on to have their own lifelong, fulfilling relationship with the countryside - or at least discover that they are physically and mentally capable of a lot more than they realised. We'd love to hear about the activities you are planning and any support you might need. Let us help you with your journey...



“It has been a pleasure working with Kevin Beattie. As an ex-teacher himself, he thoroughly understands the constraint upon schools’ time and resources and has produced a bespoke package for our students which perfectly suits our requirements.”

MANDY HICKMAN, DofE MANAGER, ALTRINCHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

HOW CHALLENGING?

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a personal development award, and the Expedition programme develops teamwork skills through a teamwork challenge. The challenge encourages participants to support each other and share tasks whilst travelling, navigating, camping, cooking, and dealing with stressors.

Teams get lost, experience bad weather, have medical issues. Days feel long and hard whilst travelling through remote, unfamiliar areas. The team plans their route, selects appropriate clothing and food then attend a training expedition before they are safe to walk unaccompanied by an adult on a final expedition.

Time and distance covered per day

BRONZE

10-12 Km

6 hours of planned activity,
Through fields & farm land

SILVER

12-14 Km

7 hours of planned activity,
Some uplands
and hills

GOLD

13-18 Km

8 hours of planned activity,
Remote valleys, hills
and mountains



WHY USE AN APPROVED ACTIVITY PROVIDER?

SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT

Adventurous Horizons has been approved by The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. They ensure our programmes provide quality training, equipment, and safety supervision systems.

Providing Bronze and Silver for large numbers of teams would be a huge demand on schools: normally they lack the staff, technical expertise, safety qualifications, equipment and insurance required. We take most of the stress and administration out of providing the Expedition Section.

On every expedition lots of little problems crop up and sometimes big ones too, even on Bronze in Summer. But our staff have the experience to cope - we'll go out in the rain and fog to find teams and have outdoor first aid qualifications and the experience to manage.

All teams on all expeditions have GPS trackers and emergency smartphones and attend 2 hour first aid and emergency training.

We hope for the best but always plan for the worst.



SAFETY, LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION

AAALA reg no: L11326/R1942

Approved Activity Provider (AAP) for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme





SUPPORT FOR PARTICIPANTS, PARENTS AND SCHOOLS

We manage all aspects of the DofE expedition programme to make the job of school DofE manager as straightforward and stress-free as possible.

This gives every participant the best experience and chance of success.



- ✓ Online participant enrolment
- ✓ Parents' evening (in person or online)
- ✓ Letters and support booklets for parents
- ✓ Workbooks and learning resources for participants
- ✓ Training events and resources designed by qualified teachers
- ✓ Expeditions fully planned, with safe routes and safe supervision procedures
- ✓ Staff with professional outdoor leadership and first aid qualifications
- ✓ Assessor reports submitted directly to eDofE

“The detailed planning and support materials provided by Kevin throughout the programme made sure the events ran like clockwork. Kevin helped us avoid issues and dealt with problems easily. As the new DofE manager for our school, this allowed me to relax and enjoy myself too!”

GARETH JOHNSON, CALDERSTONES SCHOOL

BUILDING THE **ULTIMATE** **EXPEDITION** PROGRAMME

We provide all aspects of a DofE expedition programme, from managing the initial planning and expedition training through to running the practice and qualifying expeditions themselves. We take care of everything from advising parents and handling the expedition reports to DofE paperwork. This helps make the job of school DofE manager as straightforward and stress-free as possible, and it should give parents more peace of mind.

PLANNING DAY

During these school-based, one-day sessions, teams attend 3 sessions: Using a map to plan their route; Basic first aid; What clothing and food to pack.

We can train teams on weekdays or at weekends, either at your own school or at other venues.

TRAINING EXPEDITION

Each team has their own trainer who teaches them practical skills: how to navigate, camp and keep themselves safe and well-nourished in an expedition setting.

The trainer also covers aspects of teamwork and personal development. At the end of the expedition, each trainer will de-brief their team and give them an action plan that is shared with the school for follow up.

QUALIFYING EXPEDITION

Accredited Expedition Assessors remotely supervise this un-accompanied expedition, meeting students along the way to monitor their progress and welfare.

Teams are debriefed at the end of the expedition and the Assessor report produced.

PRESENTATION

We supply a background research pack to each student which they can use to formulate their project and presentation.

During the training expedition, our instructors discuss ideas with students and help translate those into their final expedition aims and presentation theme. They can make their presentations to our Assessors or to the DofE manager back at school.



WHAT'S INCLUDED AS STANDARD?

- ✓ Admin support shared via a Google Drive folder
- ✓ Online Participant registration form to reduce school administration
- ✓ Highly experienced expedition trainers
- ✓ DofE Accredited Assessor and an Assessor Report
- ✓ Team equipment: tents, stoves, pots, fuel, maps, map cases, compasses
- ✓ Safety equipment: Emergency shelter, emergency phone and GPS tracker
- ✓ Camp site or hostel fees (including staff)
- ✓ Pre-expedition training package based on the DofE syllabus
- ✓ Support booklets for participants and parents
- ✓ All paperwork including risk assessment
- ✓ YouTube channel



EXAMPLE EXPEDITION PACKAGES

These are standard packages that have worked well for our school clients in the past. Have a chat with us to customise these to fit your needs.

BRONZE

5 Day Package

Planning Day (in school)

Two day/one night practice expedition

Two day/one night qualifying expedition

SILVER

7 Day Package

Planning Day (in school)

Three day/two night practice expedition

Three day/two night qualifying expedition

GOLD

9 Day Package

Planning Day (in school)

Three day/two night practice expedition

Five day/four night qualifying expedition



BESPOKE PROGRAMME SUPPORT

Not sure you want a full programme? Want additional days or have Direct Entrants? Do you just want some extra staff and/or a Technical Advisor? We build a bespoke expedition package to exactly match your needs, doing as little or as much of the work as you want us to...

WE CAN:

- ✓ Organise expeditions for groups that you have trained.
- ✓ Provide instructors, co-ordinators or assessors to work alongside your staff.
- ✓ Provide technical advice on your expedition training programme, operating procedures, chosen routes and supervision plan.
- ✓ Train your staff to run their own in-centre training, expedition training and expedition assessment reports.
- ✓ Extra training days for direct entrants to silver and gold expeditions.



WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

We take expeditions to all parts of the UK, from the Highlands of Scotland to the hill country of mid-Wales. For Bronze expeditions, plenty of challenges can be found relatively close to home while Silver and Gold offer the opportunity to explore further afield. Our most popular expedition venues include the Peak District, Wales, Lancashire hills, Yorkshire and the Lake District. We're happy to discuss your preferences.

OUR EDUCATIONAL ETHOS

IN EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE

- ✓ Planning Day (in school) - designed and led by teachers. Provides participants with enough information and time to prepare and bring correct clothing and food to enjoy their Training Expedition better.
- ✓ Provision of support packs, workbooks and videos for participants and parents. Encourage better preparation beforehand and review afterwards.
- ✓ Training Expedition is 80% training / 20% assessment and even our Qualifying Expedition is 30% training and 70% assessment.
- ✓ One trainer per team.
- ✓ Map & compass: one between two participants on Bronze & Silver. One each on Gold.

OUR STAFF

We pride ourselves on the professionalism and experience of our instructors. All staff have outdoor leadership qualifications, have Enhanced DBS clearance and an Outdoor First Aid qualification. They also tend to specialise in DofE training and have much deeper and broader skills and training than those of other providers.

Many of our staff continue to enjoy their own expeditions and outdoor sports around the world and bring this enthusiasm to their work.

Our staff also demonstrate an ethos of empathy and education, working hard to inspire teams towards successful outcomes.

Trainers focus on personal development and teamwork development rather than just on expedition skills.

“Open, friendly communication is key to our service and we'd love to hear about the activities you are planning. Do call us for a chat and some friendly advice at any time - we love talking about the outdoors almost as much as being there.”

KEVIN BEATTIE, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR AND PROGRAMMES MANAGER, ADVENTUROUS HORIZONS

FIND OUT WHAT
YOU ARE TRULY **CAPABLE OF...**



For more info and bookings:
adventurous-horizons.co.uk

