

DofE FAQ's

What activities are involved in DofE?

- To complete the DofE award, you will need to learn a skill, take part in a physical (sporting) activity and do some volunteering, as well as completing an expedition which involves hiking and camping overnight. You need to do each of these once a week for at least 3 months.

Do these have to be new activities?

- No, you can use an activity you already do. For example, if you have swimming lessons once a week, you could use this as your physical activity.

How much does it cost to do the DofE award?

- The only costs involved are for the DofE welcome pack and the campsite fees. This means that the bronze award will cost between £50 - £75 per person, and the silver award costs £75-£100 per person. The exact cost will be confirmed when students are invited to sign up.

Which levels of DofE can I do?

- At Forge, we offer the bronze award in year 9 and the silver award in year 10. Some students go onto complete the gold award in Sixth Form. You don't have to have completed the bronze award to do silver, but it makes it easier if you have.

What if I don't complete my bronze in year 9?

- You can take part in the award until you are 25 so if you don't complete all your bronze activities in year 9, you can continue them into year 10 and beyond!

Do I have to have experience of camping?

- No, absolutely no experience necessary. We will train you with skills you need to map read and camp before the expedition.

Will I need to buy extra kit for the expedition?

- We have a lot of kit which you can borrow (e.g. rucksacks, tents, sleeping mats, camping stoves) so you won't need to buy much extra, if anything.

Where does the expedition take place?

- In previous years, our bronze expeditions have taken place around Kinver and our silver expeditions on and around Long Mynd in Shropshire.

How can I sign up?

- At the beginning of Year 9, you will be given information about bronze DofE with a letter for parents and details of how to enroll.
- At the start of Year 10, you will be offered the chance to sign up for the silver award.
- Please be aware that we don't accept students onto the award programme part way through the year as there will not be enough time to complete the skill, physical and volunteering activities before the expedition.

