

A photograph of three young men outdoors. The man on the left has dark curly hair and wears glasses. The man in the middle has blonde hair and is smiling broadly. The man on the right has dark curly hair and is looking down at a basketball. They are all wearing black t-shirts. The background shows a cloudy sky and some greenery.

YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS



A parent and carer's guide to DofE



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What is DofE?

DofE is a life-changing adventure for young people aged 14*-24.

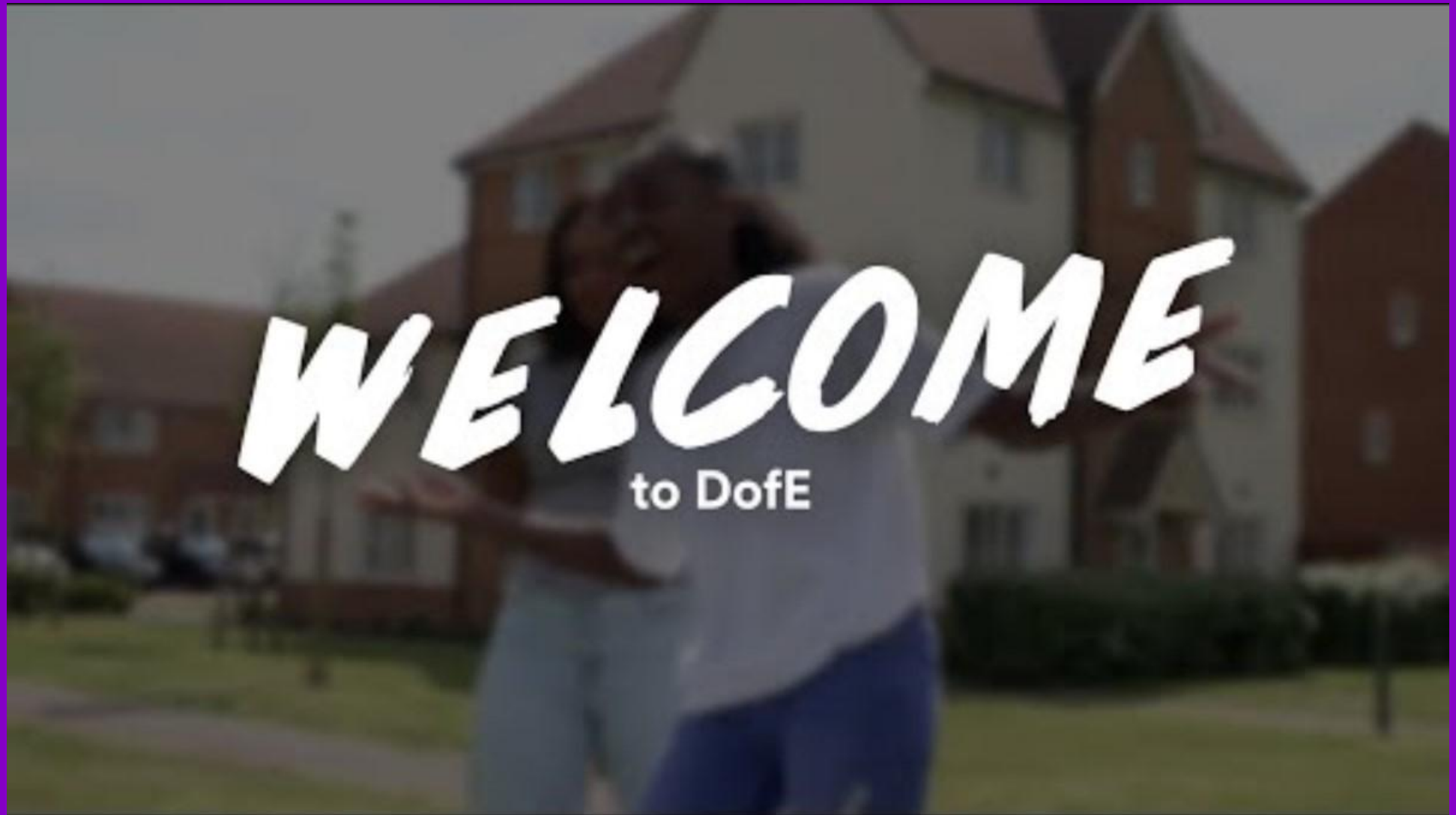
It empowers young people to build essential life and work skills. It encourages personal growth, resilience, and confidence.



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Introducing DofE



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in numbers

April 2024 - March 2025



572,802

Young people actively doing their DofE



342,414

Young people started their DofE journey



Over

5 million

volunteering hours given by young people



£33.4m

Estimated total value of volunteering hours given in support of others

Awards started



Bronze **235,045**



Silver **76,693**



Gold **30,676**



166,592

Awards were achieved

Awards started by marginalised young people



51,049 (14.9%)
Experiencing poverty



94,416 (27.6%)
From minority ethnic backgrounds



28,129 (8.2%)
Have additional needs

30.8%

Of 14 year olds in the UK started their Bronze DofE



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38,744

Leaders and volunteers delivering DofE programmes



4,950

Licensed Organisations delivering the DofE

What is involved?

BRONZE AWARD

What will I do?			
 Volunteering 3 months	 Physical 3 months	 Skills 3 months	 Expedition 2 days and 1 night
Plus a further 3 months in either the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.			

SILVER AWARD

What will I do?			
 Volunteering 6 months	 Physical 3 or 6 months	 Skills 3 or 6 months	 Expedition 3 days and 2 nights
Physical and Skills sections: one section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months .			
If you didn't do Bronze, you must do a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.			

GOLD AWARD

What will I do?				
 Volunteering 12 months	 Physical 12 or 6 months	 Skills 12 or 6 months	 Expedition 4 days and 3 nights	 Residential 5 days and 4 nights
Physical and Skills sections: one section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months .				
If you didn't do Silver, you must do a further 6 months in either the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.				

Choosing activities

Choosing an activity

- Make sure the activity is something they enjoy! There are lots of different activity ideas for each section.

Preparation

- Ensure you and your young person complete the relevant research and agree their activity with their Leader.
- Ensure the activity is **safe**. You may need to ask the provider of the activity what safety measures they have in place.

Where can I do an activity?

- Activities can be completed at their organisation or in their local area.
- Their DofE activities must be complete outside of their mandatory lessons or paid employment – they must be completed in their own time which is why it is important to find things they enjoy!

Check the activity

Remember to check if what they are planning to do is permitted for the section with their Leader.



Volunteering section

Helping others and
making a difference
to the causes they
care about.



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Physical section

Improving their health
and fitness and having
fun along the way!



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Skills section

Developing existing skills or discovering new things to love.



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Expedition

Spending time in the great outdoors and creating lifelong memories.



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Residential (Gold Award only)

Five days and four nights
away from home.

Sharing experiences
and creating new
connections.



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DofE.org

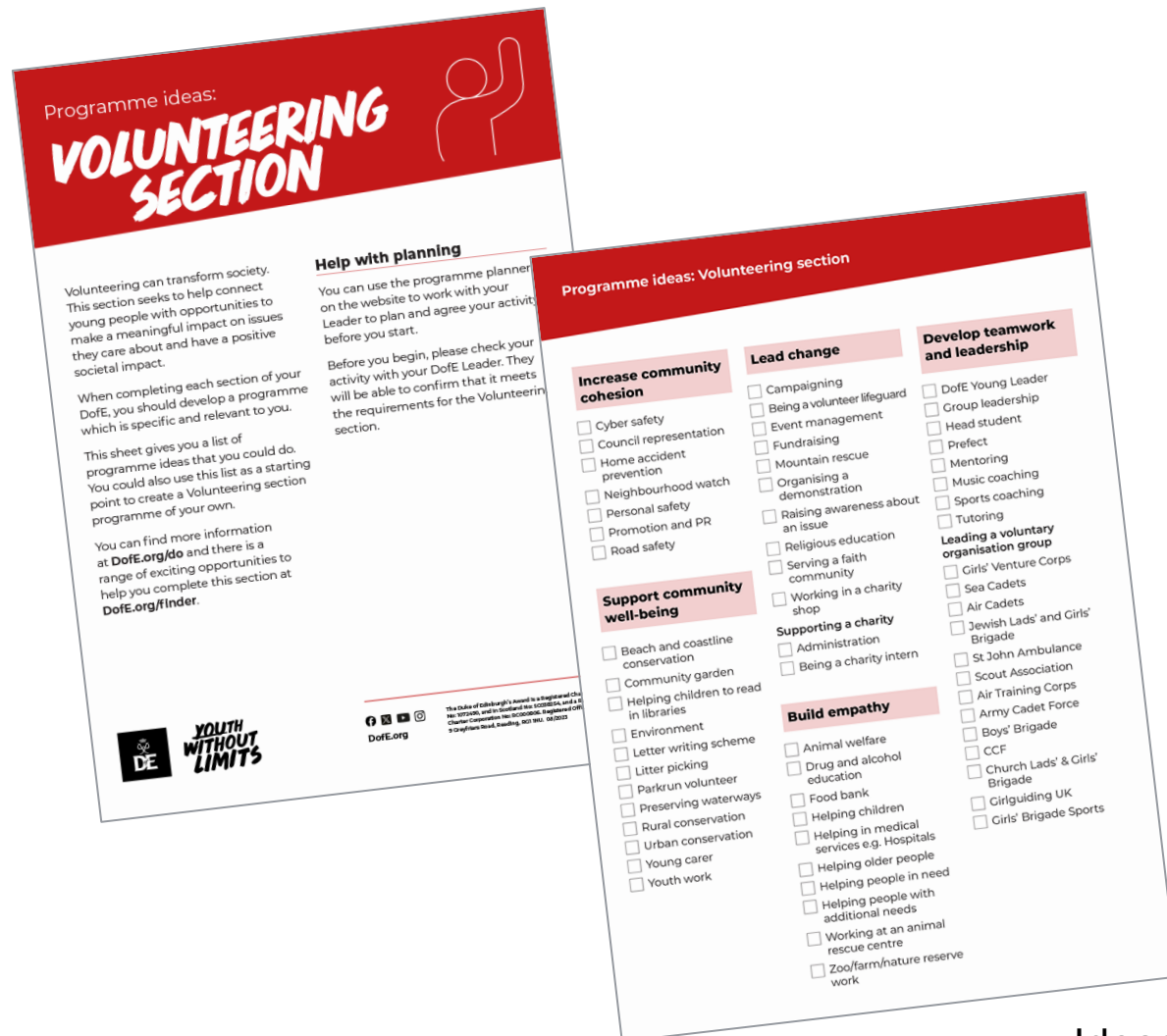
Visit our website for the
most up-to-date information
and guidance.



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Programme ideas



For more ideas, use our **Programme Ideas** sheets or head to the **Opportunity Finder** for local approved opportunities.



Ideas for Activities - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Your role

- Guidance
- Encouragement
- Practical support
- Recognise achievement

All expeditions are inclusive and if you need any adjustments please reach out to your organisation's DofE Manager.



Key milestones



Enrolled to eDofE

The Leader will add the young person to eDofE and they will receive their username and password.

Within two weeks

Login to eDofE within two weeks of being enrolled.

Within four weeks

Choose activities for at least one section and submit to the leader.

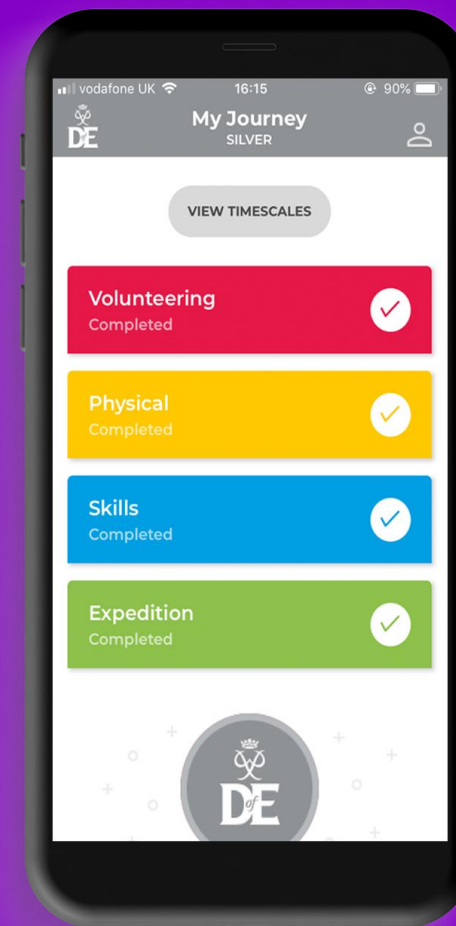
Within six weeks

The Leader will let them know if there are any problems with the activities and help them.

Within eight weeks

At eight weeks after they were enrolled, they should have started at least one of their activities and keep track using the App.

Your Welcome Pack and eDofE



Assessors

Each activity requires an Assessor to confirm the activity. On completion of the section, the assessor will complete an Assessor's Report to confirm the activity was carried out for full timescale, showing commitment and effort.

Who is suitable to be an Assessor?

Any adult who has a good understanding of the activity they are doing and has witnessed them take part. However, they cannot be anyone related to the participant.

Assessor Reports

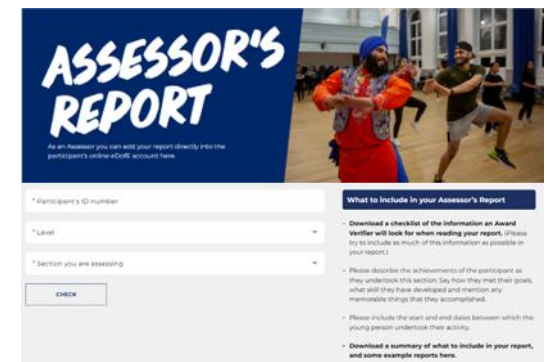
Each section needs a report completed by an adult Assessor. This can be submitted through the Assessor's portal or on the cards that they will receive with your Welcome Pack.

Participants should complete:

- Name; ID number; Award Level
- Description of activity
- Start and end date
- Timeframe chosen for section
- Goals



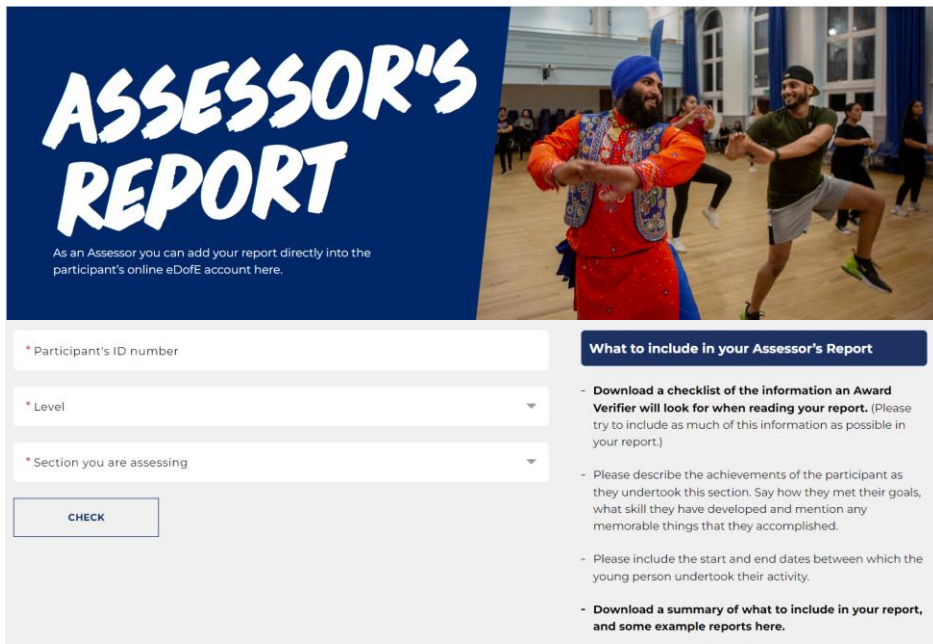
Assessor's Report form. Fields include: Participant name, ID No., Level (Bronze), Description of activity, Date started, Completed, Goals set by participant, Assessor's comments, What progress did they make towards their goals?, What did they achieve? What skills did they learn?, How frequently did they take part in this activity?, Any other comments?, Signature, Assessor's first name, Last name, Assessor's position/qualification, Assessor's phone number, Assessor's email. A red box at the bottom states: Participants should scan or photograph this page and upload to eDfE as evidence.



Assessor's Report portal. Header: ASSESSOR'S REPORT. Sub-header: As an Assessor you can add your report directly into the participant's online eDfE account here. Fields include: * Participant's ID number, * Level, * Section you are assessing, CHECK button. A sidebar titled 'What to include in your Assessor's Report' lists: Download a checklist of the information an Award Verifier will look for when reading your report, Please describe the achievements of the participant as they undertake this section, Please include the start and end dates between which the young person undertook their activity, Download a summary of what to include in your report, and some example reports here.

Assessor Reports

Assessor's portal

A screenshot of the Assessor's portal. On the left, a blue banner with the text 'ASSESSOR'S REPORT' in large white letters. Below it, smaller text says 'As an Assessor you can add your report directly into the participant's online eDofE account here.' To the right of the banner is a photo of a man in a red and blue traditional Indian outfit (dhoti and kurta) performing a dance move in a gym. Below the banner, there are three input fields: '* Participant's ID number', '* Level' (with a dropdown arrow), and '* Section you are assessing' (with a dropdown arrow). Below these fields is a 'CHECK' button. To the right of the input fields is a section titled 'What to include in your Assessor's Report' with a list of instructions: '- Download a checklist of the information an Award Verifier will look for when reading your report. (Please try to include as much of this information as possible in your report.)', '- Please describe the achievements of the participant as they undertook this section. Say how they met their goals, what skill they have developed and mention any memorable things that they accomplished.', '- Please include the start and end dates between which the young person undertook their activity.', and '- Download a summary of what to include in your report, and some example reports here.'

www.dofe.org/assessor

Their Assessor will need to know:

- The participant's eDofE number
- The level they are doing
- Which section they are assessing

This will go directly onto your eDofE record!

Assessor's card

A screenshot of the Assessor's card form. At the top left is the DofE logo. To its right is the text 'ASSESSOR'S REPORT: SKILLS'. To the right of that is a box with three fields: 'Participant:', 'eDofE ID No:', and 'Level: Bronze'. Below these fields are three lines for 'Description of activity:'. Below that are two lines for 'Date started: ___/___/___ Completed: ___/___/___ (___ months)'. Below that is a line for 'Goals set by participant:'. Below that is a section titled 'Assessor's comments:' with a paragraph of instructions: 'Please write as much as possible, talking about training, teamwork (if applicable) and achievements. What you write will celebrate the achievement of the young person and form part of their permanent record of their DofE programme. Please note: the information you have provided in this report will be scanned and stored by the DofE as part of its record of the participant's achievement. The DofE will not share your personal data with third parties.' Below this is a line for 'What progress did they make towards their goals?'. Below that is a line for 'What did they achieve? What skills did they learn?'. Below that is a line for 'How frequently did they take part in this activity?'. Below that is a line for 'Any other comments?'. Below that are lines for 'Signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___', 'Assessor's first name: _____ Last name: _____', 'Assessor's position/qualification: _____', 'Assessor's phone number: _____', and 'Assessor's email: _____'. At the bottom is a small blue text: 'Participants should scan or photograph this page and upload to eDofE as evidence.'

Participants will receive this in their Welcome Pack through the post

Costs

Registration fee and deposit – Bronze £35, Silver £35, Gold £50

Expedition Costs – prices tbc (Approximately: Bronze ~ £245, Silver ~ £415 and Gold ~ £350) includes all training days, practice and assessed expeditions and group kit.

Deadline – Registration fee and deposit must be paid on Parentpay by 12pm Friday 2nd October.

Training and Expedition Dates - 2027

Bronze

Training Day

Saturday 6th February

Practice Walk

Sunday 7th February

Assessed expedition

Monday 19th- Tuesday 20th July

Silver

Training Day

Saturday 6th February

Practice Expedition

Friday 16th – Sunday 18th April

Assessed Expedition

Friday 18th – Sunday 20th June

Gold

Training Fridays of Week A p5 in L1

Practice Expedition

Friday 16th – Sunday 18th July

Assessed Expedition

Wednesday 22nd – Sunday 26th
September

**Are you ready to
support your young
person to start an
adventure they'll
never forget?**



Laura Hubbard-Miles DofE Award Manager

**I'm really excited to support our
students to make the most of this
fabulous award.**

lhubbard-miles@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk

**The DofE is a charity.
Visit DofE.org for more information.**



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DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS AS A DOFE YOUNG LEADER

“Becoming a Young Leader
has helped increase my
confidence and feel as though
I’m part of a community”

Shehbaaz, Young Leader



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We're looking for a Young Leader
to help support delivery of The
Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



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