

20 April 2020

Dear Parent or Carer

I am writing to update you on how the current situation regarding the coronavirus may be affecting your child's Duke of Edinburgh award.

For many students their regular chosen activities for their sections may no longer be viable. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award are, however, allowing students to change their activities for each section to enable them to continue working on their award during lockdown. Participants will need to upload evidence of their activities to eDofE as normal.

I think the section most likely to be affected by lockdown will be their volunteering sections. If your child cannot complete their arranged voluntary work but they are able to help in the community during this time of crisis, this will most definitely count towards their volunteering section.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award have put together a list of alternative activities that participants can do at home for their sections. These can be found at:

www.dofe.org/DofEWithADifference

My suggestion to those students who do choose to change their activity would be to add a piece of written evidence for that section on eDofE stating that:

"Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the lockdown, I am unable to do activity. I shall now be working on instead."

Students can then upload evidence for the new activities as they would do normally. I would also like to remind students that they are required to do an average of one hour a week per section, but they do not have work on all three sections at the same time.

With the current situation, all expeditions that were planned this term have been postponed. We are currently planning to rearrange these for the start of the next academic year, and we will update you as soon as we can.

For many students this could be the perfect opportunity to finish work on their sections, and begin to get sections signed off. Quite often students forget about their other sections and focus solely on the expedition. Where possible, I would encourage students to use this time, so that when we complete the expedition sections, they will be closer to completing their full award.

If students have any questions regarding their award they can contact me via email, or by messaging me on the Duke of Edinburgh website, eDofE. Where possible, students should continue to check eDofE regularly as any updates I have regarding work on their sections will be communicated to them via this platform.

I hope this information is useful, and that this letter finds you all in good health.

If you have any queries at all, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JRYates". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized, with the "Y" and "A" being particularly prominent.

Miss J Yates
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