

DofE Frequently asked questions

- **I emailed leicsdofe@gmail.com a while ago and haven't had a reply**
We are very sorry about this - due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Lucy has been *extremely* busy at work for the last 4 months and hasn't been able to give DofE the attention it deserved. She is now in a position to deal with all DofE enquiries again and will respond as soon as possible to all enquiries.
- **I have finished my award but haven't heard anything yet**
Firstly, please check that the email address registered on eDofE is still correct - you may have received notifications to an old school/parental email address. Secondly, if you have not received confirmation of your award by 12 July, please email and we will look into it.
- **I have completed my award recently, will I be invited to a presentation evening?**
County Presentation evenings are on hold for the foreseeable future, however you should receive an invitation to the region awards virtual-ceremony very soon. This will be held on 21 July. If you have not yet received your badge/certificate, you will be contacted shortly to ask whether you would like to attend the next Leicestershire Presentation evening when one is held or to receive your award by post.
- **I sent my registration form in but I haven't heard anything**
Please email leicsdofe@gmail.com and we will look into it
- **I am registered for DofE with school, can I transfer to Girlguiding?**
Yes - send your eDofE number to leicsdofe@gmail.com and we will get you transferred over. If you do not know your eDofE number, we will need your date of birth and name of the place you are currently registered (eg school)
- **I did my bronze/silver with school, can I do my silver/gold with Girlguiding?**
Yes - send your eDofE number to leicsdofe@gmail.com and we will get you transferred over. If you do not know your eDofE number, we will need your date of birth and name of the place you are currently registered (eg school)
- **I am currently working on my Bronze DofE - do I have to wait till next year to do my expedition?**
Yes ... but don't worry, there is a way to complete Bronze and Silver at the same time! As an exception to the normal rules, if you register for Silver before March 2021, you will still need to complete the training but will then only need to complete two expeditions in order to complete both Bronze and Silver awards. (Your Silver practice expedition will count as your Bronze qualifying)
- **I am doing my silver and would like to move onto Gold. I've done everything except my expedition and I am worried about completing that in time.**
If you have completed the skills, physical and volunteering sections before December 2020, you will receive a Certificate of Achievement which will allow you

to progress to Gold and be treated as if they have completed the previous Award level when it comes to the time they need to commit to their sectional activities. However, if you do not complete the expedition, you will not receive your Silver Award.

- **Can I still work on my award?**

Yes! Due to the recent pandemic, all DofE expeditions have been postponed but you can still work on other parts of your award.

Volunteering Ideas:

If you are a Young Leader: you may still be meeting with your units and taking part in planning activities - if your unit is not meeting, that's ok, there are other things you can do too.

Other ideas: You could help a neighbour who is vulnerable by walking their dog, picking up shopping or participating in any other local campaigns to ensure others are well looked after. You could also raise awareness and/or funds for a charity or

As an exception during this time, you may also count activities you have done to help a family member, such as shopping for a shielding relative or mentoring a younger sibling with homework, music or similar. If you choose to do this, you must speak to the county DofE adviser as you will not be able to use a family member as an assessor.

Physical Ideas:

If you are not able to continue with your physical activity because the class/location is closed, why not start tracking your walking/running/cycling using an app like Strava, Google Fit or a FitBit? There are also lots of fitness sessions and classes that can be followed online and done within your home - anything from Joe Wicks daily PE to Pilates lessons, yoga to HIIT workouts. You can record a list of the ones you do and keep a record of your hours on a log.

Skills ideas:

Many skills ideas can be done at home - baking/cooking, music, many forms of art/craft, learning a language, animal care, gardening, computer programming, photography and much more. There are also many online courses to learn anything from sign language to entrepreneurship! Why not try vlogging or blogging your lockdown experience as your skill?

There are many ideas available at:

<https://www.dofe.org/dofewithadifference/activities>