

St Joseph's Catholic Academy

A Leading Edge Technology & Applied Learning College

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Dear students, parents & guardians,

RE: Duke of Edinburgh COVID-19 update (all awards)

We have had some guidance from DofE regarding the participation in the programme during the COVID-19 lockdown.

What has changed?

The following changes have been made for the duration of the lockdown:

- Participants can now **volunteer for family members**, for example by mentoring or coaching younger siblings.
- Participants can now **change section activities more than once**. Time spent on previous activities will still count towards completion.
- DofE staff members may be able to act as Volunteering, Physical and Skills section Assessors if required.

What does this mean for participants?

Participants can now change their proposed activities to those which can be done while in lockdown. I would encourage all participants to consider doing this and make use of the time available during the lockdown.

Volunteer to walk the dog, clean the house, do the gardening, helping younger siblings with home learning each week.

Change the **physical** activity to something which can be done while out for the allowed daily exercise such as cycling, walking, running, yoga etc.

Change the **skill** to something in the house, such as cooking, baking, painting, YouTube vlogging, learning a musical instrument, learn a new language (including software coding).

What about the expeditions?

The expeditions will take place in the next academic year, however, if you have the other three sections completed before then, there will be no delay in receiving your full award once the expeditions are complete.

Any queries you have can be sent through the eDofE system (www.edofe.org). For ideas on what to choose for each section, visit the school website (school life / extra curricular / DofE documents).

Keep safe,

Mr MA Simpson



Northern Saints
Teaching School Alliance

Caritas Christi Urget Nos
'The love of Christ spurs us on'



Bishop Chadwick
Catholic Education Trust