

Activities Guidance

Starting Activities

In the Autumn, students begin one or more of their three Activities (Physical, Skill and Volunteering) and record these on the eDofE website using their login details. All Activities must be for at least an hour per week commitment. Two Activities are three months duration each and the third (students choose which) is for six months. Students must start at least one Activity straight away in the Autumn and all three must be started by Easter and completed by the end of the summer term in July 2019.

Evidence

It is very important that students record and evidence their Activities properly on eDofE. They need to fill in the Activity sections with their plans at the start and then update their logs regularly with evidence. Photos, videos, certificates, etc can all be uploaded. However you must have written text as well, not every week, but several written pieces over the course of the 3 /6months. Photos alone are not enough. Depending on the activity type, explain what you are doing, where and with who, and what you are contributing or learning and how you might take it further next time, etc. The Activity logs on eDofE are the students' evidence of completing their Activities and are essential to them completing the DofE Bronze Award.

Activity Logs

On this section of the website are digital copies of Activity Logs (one for each type of activity) which you might like to use as an easy way of recording evidence. Just write on a brief entry each week. Then photograph it and upload it onto eDofE at the end of the 3 or 6 months. This is optional and worth doing if it suits you, but you don't have to use it if you prefer just to type your evidence onto eDofE in the normal way. Get paper copies from Mr Davies in school if you want.

The Assessor

Each Activity needs an assessor who will sign and confirm at the end of three (or six) months that the Activity has been completed. An assessor might be an adult in charge, such as the coach of a sports team. However, a member of school staff, such as a form teacher, could be the assessor, even for an Activity completed outside school, provided it is well-evidenced. DofE prefer the assessor not to be a parent of the relevant student, although there can be exceptions to this in certain circumstances, for example if the parent is also the coach of the sports team.

In their welcome packs, students received a booklet of cards to give to their assessor, one at the start of the Activity and the other at the end to confirm completion. Make sure you ask the assessor if they will carry out this role for you at

the start of your Activity. Don't spring it on them as a surprise at the end of your activity when they should have been aware from the start.

The Assessor's report is the most important piece of evidence and it is given at the end of the Activity timescale. The assessor doesn't have to sign or fill in any paperwork each week. There is only the assessor's report at the end. There are three ways for the assessor to give their report and these are shown on the Evidence Poster in this section of the website. These three ways are:-

1. Hand-write on the assessor's report card which is the tear-off card in the Welcome Pack that you receive at the start. Then photograph the assessor's report and upload the photo onto eDofE. Mark it as "Assessor's Report."
2. Write a note or letter giving the assessor's report. Photograph and upload it onto eDofE in the same way.
3. The assessor can type their report directly onto the eDofE website. You will need to give them your eDofE ID number which you can see when you login.

Hopefully the assessor will be able to add a short paragraph setting out what you have done and what progress you have made in terms of your physical activities, your voluntary contributions or your skill development.

Final Words

The activities are partly about recognising the worthwhile things you are doing already, but also about making the opportunity to try new things, meet new people and develop new skills and new confidence. They are also about showing resilience – sticking with it and getting the job done, even when it's not easy. Really put your best into it – you'll get lots more out in return. Above all, enjoy it!