





The Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award Scheme at Sharples School.

Major employers in the UK (including Boots, BT, Honda, Morrisons, Alliance and Leicester, Tesco, Vauxhall) were asked what they thought were the most important activities taken on in school.

Number 1



Rank		Average Ratings in order of importance
1	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award ('DofE')	1.96
2	Work experience	2.00
3	Community activities	2.04
4	World Challenge	2.16
5	Young Enterprise	2.20
6	Team Sporting activities	2.28
7	Youth Awards	2.28
8	Public Speaking/Debating	2.32
9	County/National teamsports	2.36
10	Interview skills	2.44
11	School Council	2.48
12	School Prefect	2.48
13	Individual Sporting achievements	2.48
15	Financial awareness courses	2.52
16	Work Shadowing	2.60
17	Industry days	2.60
18	School Newspapers	2.64
19	Plays/drama	2.68
20	Investment Clubs	2.68
21	Outside speakers	2.76
22	School Radio	2.76
23	The House/prefect system	2.76
24	Solo musical ability	2.84
25	Orchestral participation	2.84
26	Artistic skills	2.88
27	British Schools Exploring Society	3.00
28	School trips	3.08
29	Take your daughter to work	3.28

Why should I do The Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

- **Rated highly by employers.**
- **Recognised by colleges, universities and UCAS.**
- **Enables you to explore current skills and develop new interests.**

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD Putting it all in perspective The value of the DofE to employers

The United Learning Trust (ULT) recently published the results of a major survey, undertaken by them in association with Ratcliffe Hall Ltd, focusing on the methods major employers used for selection of new employees. It was primarily about graduate recruitment and asked for the employers' views on the attributes that were most attractive in candidates.

The organisations interviewed were all major employers, representing 12% of all UK employers, 3.6% of the private workforce and 47.5% of the public sector and included:

- Alliance & Leicester plc
- Boots plc
- British Energy Group plc
- British Nuclear Fuels plc
- BT Group plc
- Centrica plc
- Civil Service
- Group
- International plc
- Robert Smith LLP
- Sainsbury's plc
- Warrison's plc
- Michael Page International plc
- Nabarro Nathanson
- Northern Rock plc
- Newcastle Chronicle & Journal Ltd
- Shipley's
- Group plc
- Auxall Motors Ltd

"life skills" to be developed, with 64% of the sample indicating that a specifically designed and packaged course of "life skills" development activities, pursued by an applicant, might make a positive difference in selecting the applicant for interview.

The sample was asked what they considered to be the most important activities undertaken at school and were asked to rate them from 1-5, with 1 being the highest:

Rank	Average Ratings in order of importance	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)
1	1.96	
2	2.00	Work experience
3	2.04	Community activities
4	2.16	World Challenge
5	2.20	Young Enterprise
6	2.28	Team Sporting activities
7	2.32	Youth Awards
8	2.36	Public Speaking/Debating
9	2.44	County/National team sports
10	2.48	Interview skills
11	2.48	School Council
12	2.48	School Prefect
13	2.52	Individual Sporting achievements
14	2.60	Financial awareness courses
15	2.64	Work Shadowing
16	2.68	Industry days
17	2.70	School Newspapers
18	2.70	Plays/drama
19	2.70	Investment Clubs
20	2.70	Outside speakers
21	2.70	School Radio
22	2.70	School prefect system
23	2.70	The House/prefect system
24	2.70	Solo musical ability
25	2.70	Orchestral participation
26	2.70	Artistic skills
27	2.70	British Schools Exploring Society
28	2.70	School trips
29	2.70	Take your daughter to work



The organisations were asked what attributes and characteristics they valued as key determinants of employees. The following were:

- Teamwork
- Communication
- Confidence

These results are obviously a great endorsement of the benefits that participating in a DofE provides for a person's employability.





Better yourself:-

- Develop organisational, problem-solving skills and prove you can persevere.
- Work as a team effectively with your peers.
- Build self-confidence.
- Opportunity to interact with new people from other backgrounds, cultures and walks of life.



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award



EXPEDITION	VOLUNTEERING	PHYSICAL	SKILL
			
Expedition (2 days and one night)	Volunteering (1 hr per week) 3 months	Physical (1 hr per week) 3 months	Skill (1 hr per week) 3 months
Plus an extra 3 months on any one of these			

Independence Resilience Teamwork



Thank you!

Letters out this week. See the school website for more detail. Sign up for the after-school introduction session and the training walk on Saturday 20th November.