



# DofE AWARD INFORMATION EVENING



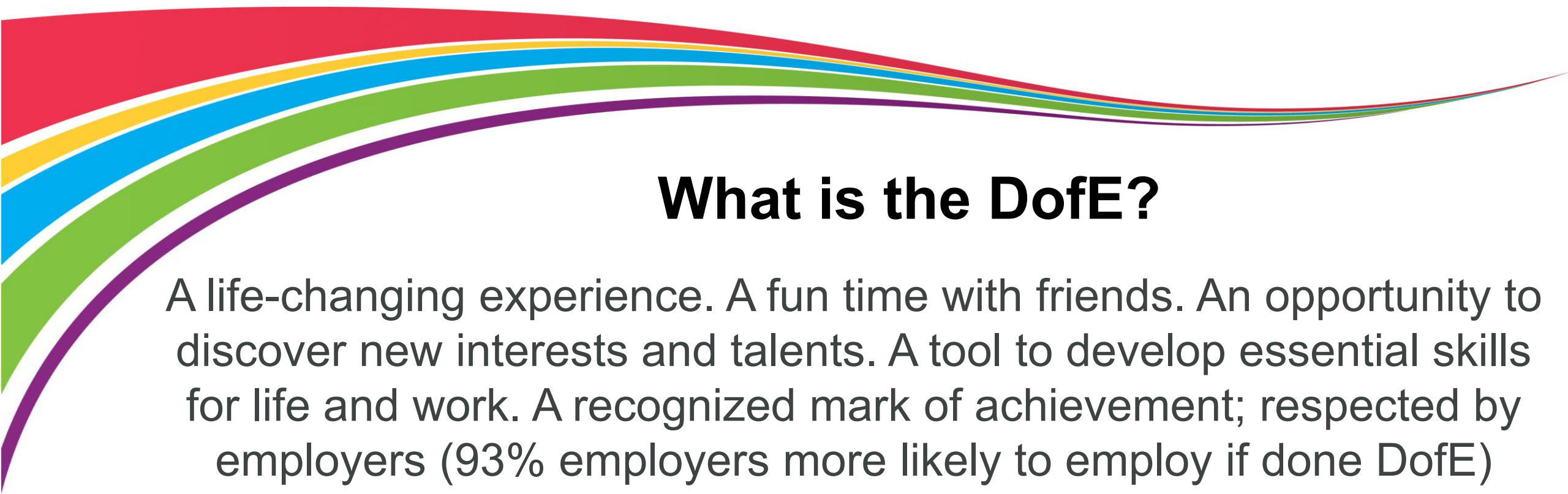
**Mr Carter**

**Head of Outdoor Education**



THE DUKE OF  
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

**YOUTH  
WITHOUT  
LIMITS**



## What is the DofE?

A life-changing experience. A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognized mark of achievement; respected by employers (93% employers more likely to employ if done DofE)

**Respect and Understanding**

**Self Belief**

**Leadership skills**

An **independent** award designed to inspire,  
guide and support young people  
in their self-development and recognise  
their achievements.

**Friendships**

**Organisation**

**Responsibility**

**Self-confidence**

**Independence**

# The DofE is...

The DofE programme is a real adventure.

You can do DofE programmes at three levels:

- **Bronze** (Year 9)
- **Silver** (Year 10)
- **Gold** (Year 12)

...which lead to a Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



# The DofE is...

You achieve an Award by completing a personal programme of activities in **four** sections (5 for Gold):

**Volunteering**

**Physical**

**Skill**

**Expedition**

**Residential (Gold Award ONLY)**

# Bronze Award Time Requirements

|                                                                                      |                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BRONZE</b>                                                                        |                                                                                 |
| <b>Volunteering 3 months</b>                                                         | <i>PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.</i> |
| <b>Physical 3 months</b>                                                             |                                                                                 |
| <b>Skills 3 months</b>                                                               |                                                                                 |
| <b>Expedition 2 days 1 night</b>                                                     |                                                                                 |
|  |                                                                                 |

**Expedition section will consist of 4 after school training sessions & 1 assessed expedition weekend**

# Silver Award Time Requirements

|                                                                                     |                               |                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SILVER</b>                                                                       |                               | <i>Plus an extra 6 months in the Volunteering, or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections if you haven't got Bronze.</i> |
| <b>Volunteering 6 months</b>                                                        |                               |                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Physical</b>                                                                     | one section for 6 months, the |                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Skills</b>                                                                       | other for 3 months            |                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Expedition 3 days 2 nights</b>                                                   |                               |                                                                                                                                |
|  |                               |                                                                                                                                |

**Expedition section will consist of 1 practice & 1 qualifying weekend (both 3 days)**

# Gold Award Time Requirements



**Expedition section will consist of 1 practice & 1 qualifying weekend**

# The Sections....



For GOLD award only

# Volunteering

Undertaking service to individuals or the community

## Aim:

- To inspire young people to make a difference within their communities or to an individual's life and develop compassion by giving service to others.



# Volunteering categories

Volunteering is easiest done through working for charitable organisations, non profit organisations or schools.

## Examples:

- Helping people
- Coaching, teaching and leadership
- Helping a charity or community organisation



***Remember... It is not just working for free***

# Physical



Improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities.

## Aim

- To inspire young people to achieve greater physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle through participation and improvement in physical activity.

# Physical categories

- Football
- Rugby
- Netball
- Tennis / Badminton
- Climbing



- Dance
- Fitness
- Kayaking
- Cycling
- Hockey



# Skills



Developing practical and social skills and personal interests.

## Aim

- To inspire young people to develop practical and social skills and personal interests.

# Skills categories

Ultimately you must be able to prove that you have broadened your understanding and increased your expertise in the chosen skill.

- Creative arts
- Performance arts
- Science and technology
- Care of animals
- Music
- Life skills
- Learning and collecting
- Media and communication
- Natural world
- Coaching/Leadership

**Be careful.... Physical activities are not skills**



# Choosing Activities

There is a wide range of activities that count towards DofE programmes.

- Choose activities you are going to enjoy.
- Activities could be something that you are already doing or perhaps one you've always wanted to try.

# Choosing Activities

Helpful lists and category finder on  
**[www.DofE.org/sections](http://www.DofE.org/sections)**.

Students must submit their ideas  
to be approved by DofE staff

**This is done through eDofE –  
Programme Planner**

You **MUST** show progression in  
your chosen activity



- [illegible]

# How Are Sections Assessed?

Each section requires a **section assessor**

This is a person who vouches for the young person and signs an assessor report once the section is completed.

The section assessor **can not** be a friend or family member

The section assessor completes the **assessor report card** which is then uploaded to eDofE

**OR**

The assessor can complete the report online at  
**Assessor's Report - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (dofe.org)**

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Date started: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Completed: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Goals set by participant: \_\_\_\_\_

## Assessor's comments:

*Please write as much as possible, talking about training, teamwork (if applicable) and achievements. What you write will celebrate the achievement of the young person and will form part of their permanent record of their DofE programme.*

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's first name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's position/qualification: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Participants should scan or photograph this page and upload to eDofE as evidence.*

# How Are Sections Assessed?

## Additional Evidence

- Photographs
- Certificates
  - Recipes
- Weekly reflections
- Photos/video's



# Expedition

Planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey.

## Aim

- To inspire young people to develop initiative and a sense of adventure and discovery, by planning, training for and completing an adventurous journey as part of a team.





**DE**  
*of*

**SHARNBROOK  
ACADEMY**

**Walking**



# Timescales for qualifying expeditions

| Level  | Duration            | Minimum hours of planned activity each day                                          |
|--------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bronze | 2 days and 1 night  | At least 6 hours during the daytime (at least 3 of which must be spent journeying)  |
| Silver | 3 days and 2 nights | At least 7 hours during the daytime (at least 3½ of which must be spent journeying) |
| Gold   | 4 days and 3 nights | At least 8 hours during the daytime (at least 4 of which must be spent journeying)  |

# Equipment

The school has a stock of equipment that is available to hire including:

- Rucksacks
- Roll Mats
- Sleeping bags



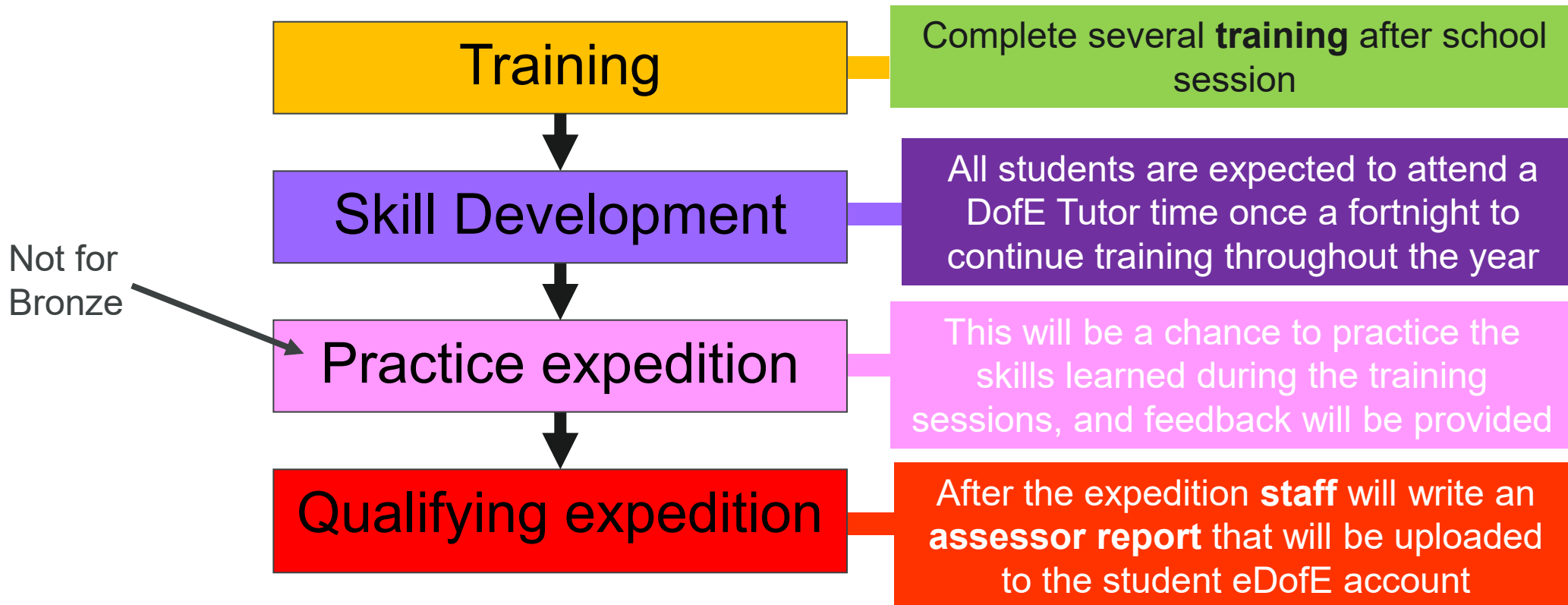
The following is provided by school:

- Tents
- Stoves
- Fuel



**For new parents/student to DofE – I will be running ‘expedition specific’ information evening in March.**

# The Expedition Process



# Expedition dates

## Bronze:

4 Afternoon Training sessions – 3.15-5.15pm dates TBC (Thursdays and mandatory)

Qualifying Expedition near Bedfordshire: **24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

## Silver :

Practice Expedition at Chiltern Hills : **11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

Qualifying Expedition at the Peak District: **24<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2026**  
(early 6am start on 24<sup>th</sup>)

## Gold:

Practice Expedition in Snowdonia: **19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2026** (leaving 1pm 19/5)

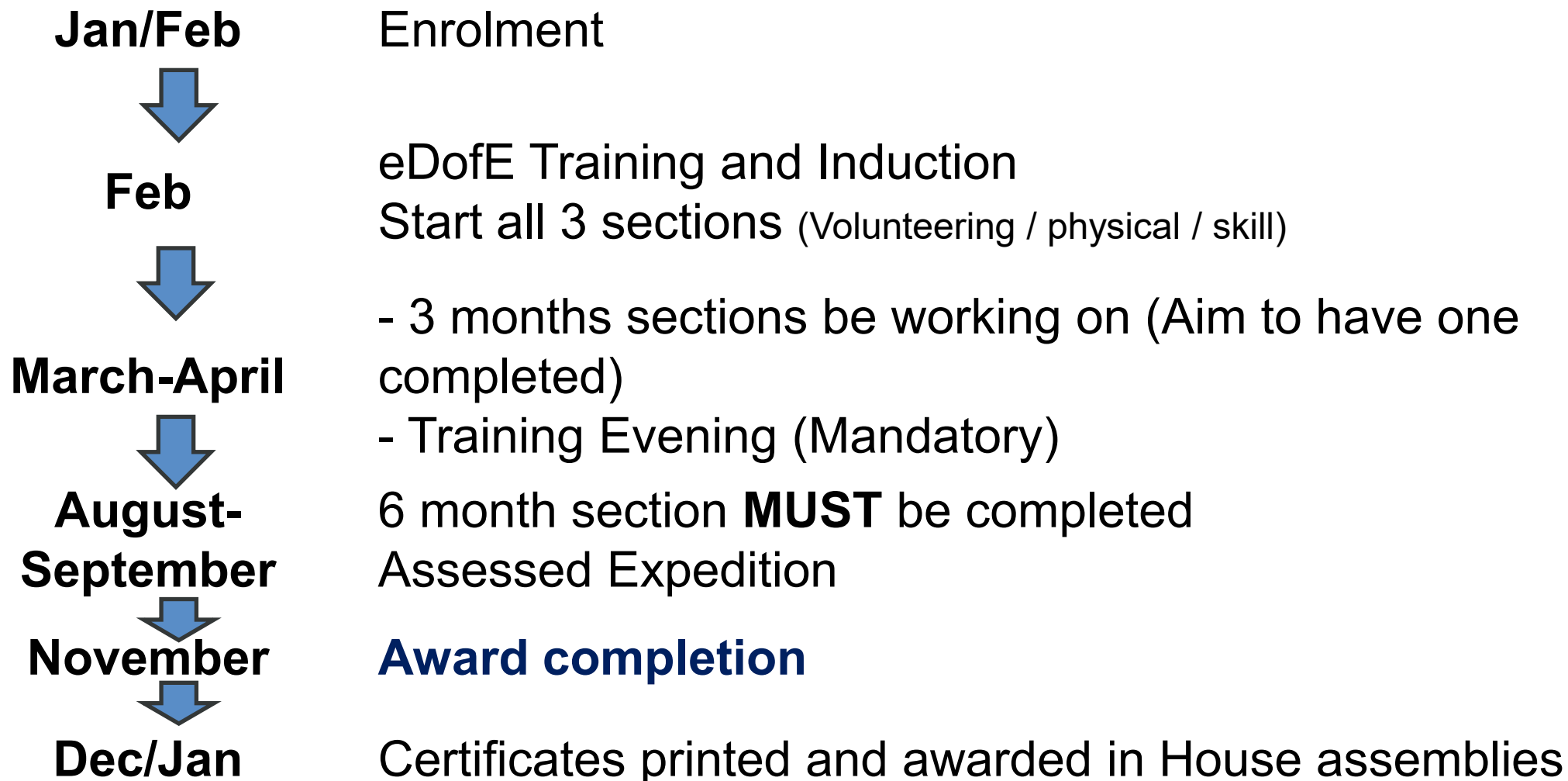
Qualifying in the Lake District: **30<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026** (leaving 1pm 30/6)

# Expedition Training Dates (Bronze/new Silver students)

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- **Session 1 – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb (15.15 – 17.30pm)**
  - *First aid, Campcraft, required equipment and Rucksack packing*
- **Session 2 – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March (15.15 – 17.30pm)**
  - *First aid, Campcraft, required equipment and Rucksack packing*
- **Session 3 – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March (15.15 – 17.30pm)**
  - *Route planning on eDofE, use of Online maps, Mapping route online and creating route card.*
- **Session 4 – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April (15.15 – 17.30pm)**
  - *Route creation and mapping amendments and campcraft (tent set up)*

# Bronze Example Timeline



*February – Students enrol on Silver (only if Bronze is completed)*

# How We Help....

Sharnbrook Staff will provide the following support:

- Enrolment and eDofE induction session
- Fortnightly meetings in Tutor Time up until assessed expedition
- After school sessions for planning and training
- Approachable staff

# The Cost of DofE

**Bronze: £132 - £165**

**Silver : £278 - £377**

**Gold: £430 - £552**

## This Covers:

- DofE Enrolment
- Licence Fee
- All expeditions and training opportunities
- Campsite Fees
- Minibus Fuel Costs
- External instructor fees
- Equipment maintenance and replacement
- Emergency Funds

Final amount to be confirmed once we have an idea of numbers.  
Unfortunately, costings fluctuate due to the amount of students that sign up.

# What to do next

1. Take ***time*** to discuss the award
2. Think about the **activities** you would do for each section
3. Use the helpful lists and category finder on [www.DofE.org/sections](http://www.DofE.org/sections)
4. Decide if you want to do the award – you must be **committed!**
5. Come and ask staff any questions **before the date** if you need help

## **Bronze** **Commitment**

You are signing up to doing activities additional to school for 3 hours a week for 3 months and another hour a week for another 3 months

This is **48 hours** of your own time over **6 months**



# Enrolment Process

**Step 1** – Sign up to the DofE award via the MCAS system. The trip will be available on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January** from 6am and sign up will close the same time the following Friday. A non-refundable deposit of **£50** will be required on sign up (this will cover the DofE enrolment fee).

## Places available...

**Bronze: 63 places**

**Silver : 35 places**

**Gold: 14 places**

**Step 2** – I will then share a DofE medical and enrolment form with those who are signed up. Shared via email. This will be used to set students up on eDofE.

# After enrolment

1. Students will be set up with an EdofE login, if they haven't already got one.
2. Students will need to complete their *personal details form* & then log their programme ideas for each section. DofE will then post a student booklet and DofE card to students home address.
3. Once these programme planners are submitted staff will check and confirm them on eDofE.
4. Once programme planners have been confirmed – students are free to start their sessions for each section. ***NOTE- you can start before hand, and I will date enrolment back to September, but always double check activity.***

- **Can I move onto a higher level if I haven't completed the lower ones?**
  - Yes, but you will require to do some of the sections for slightly longer
- **Do I have to attend both practice and qualifying expeditions?**
  - Yes, you are required to attend both as part of the award.
- **Do I have to ALL after school sessions?**
  - Yes, you are required to attend ALL after school sessions as they are used to provide you with the training for your expeditions and are compulsory for your award.
- **Can I pay in instalments?**
  - Yes, a letter will be emailed out with the payment dates on.

# Enrolment Deadline.....

**MCAS sign up and Deposit:**

**From Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Deadline is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Decide.  
Commit.  
Succeed.**

# Questions?