



The DofE is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving millions of 14 to 24-year-olds the opportunity to be the very best they can be. There are three Award levels:

- Bronze – for those aged 14+ years
- Silver – for those aged 15+ years
- Gold – for those aged 16+ years

The DofE Award undertaken at Redwood is a vehicle in which our Post 16 students can work towards their EHCP outcomes and start to develop work/independence skills needed as they progress into adulthood.

The Duke of Edinburgh award provides our students with a framework in which to develop a range of 'softskills' which are vital in supporting our students' development. These include; communication skills, resilience, team working skills and independence as well as providing our students with culturally enriching opportunities and a chance to grow as individuals through the Expedition section of the award. The overarching intent of the DofE Curriculum is to provide our students with rich and varied experiences, to develop new hobbies and interests, to boost their confidence and to foster their 'soft-skills'. Through this, we hope that the students which have gone through the DofE award go on to lead fulfilling lives, rich with experience and interest.

Students work on 3 sections of the award; Physical, Volunteering and Skills, over the course of the year, with the fourth section of the award, expedition, usually being completed in the Summer Term.

In 6th Form, the curriculum works to develop the skills and interests of students as they move into adulthood. For the Skills and Physical section, there is a focus on new experiences and the development of new hobbies and interests such as Taekwondo, Yoga, Woodwork, Animal Care, Film Making and Vlogging. This opens up the students' 'life after Redwood', encouraging them to find things that interest them and beneficial ways they can engage within their communities. Students develop working and life skills to increase their confidence and independence as they move onto the Internship or look to leave Redwood. Students completing the award are having the chance to get out in the local community and make a real difference through their Volunteering options.



The DofE Coordinator and team have secured a number of engaging volunteering opportunities located in the local community. The volunteering opportunities the students have access to include; Milnrow Cricket Club volunteer groundskeeping, Back o'th' Moss Community Centre, Beechwood Lodge Care Home, The Strand Community Garden at Kirkholt, Hopwood Hall Estate, Springhill Hospice and volunteering within the ExB classes here at school. These opportunities give the students working on their volunteering section the opportunity to select an opportunity based on their interests and abilities. These placements have provided our students with a chance to grow as people, fostering confidence, self-esteem and communication skills. This has also provided the students with real-work experiences.

All of these opportunities foster positive personal development within our students. Not only giving them the opportunities to work towards a wide range of EHCP outcomes, but also to feel part of a wider community. To promote and develop the Duke of Edinburgh Curriculum we have invested heavily in staff CPD and identified a team of expedition deliverers. Staff have completed work towards their 'walking skills' training.

2 members of staff have completed their Lowland Leader Training, 3 members of staff have completed their MIDAS training, 2 members of staff completed a 3-day outdoor first aid course and two members of staff are trained as Expedition Assessors.