

Covid-19 Changes to Top Awards

Due to the current lockdown, new guidelines have been issued for The Queen's Scout Award and The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

The Queen's Scout Award

Carl Meadows – QSA Coordinator for Norfolk.

Participants can still work on the Queen's Scout Award during lockdown. Currently QSA applications cannot be processed by HQ as the staff team are on the Government Furlough Scheme. Please refrain from contacting HQ until further notice.

However, Carl is available for ongoing support. Carl has the ability to issue a six-month extension to members of Scouting who reach the age of 25 and have not been able to complete all the elements of the QSA due to the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown.

What you can do...

- **'Skill,' 'Physical Activity' and 'Service'** elements can be completed during lockdown and it is possible to adapt or change the activities that are being completed to enable activities to be worked on at home. Time spent on previous activities will still count towards completion of the award.
- **'International, Community and Values'** It is possible to complete or adapt requirements within the list, please check with your DESC, Top Awards Team or Carl before making changes.
- **Presentations** can be made digitally to an appropriate audience. Carl is happy to help to organise this.

What you can't do...

- **'Expedition'** elements of the award, particularly the practice and final expedition are not possible during the isolation lockdown.
- **'Residential'** is not possible during isolation.
- **Nights Away at Home** wouldn't be appropriate. A young person will not be able to complete the nights away element of the award whilst in isolation. This will need to wait until restrictions are lifted.



Scout of the World Award...

The Discovery Weekend that was planned for July 2020 will unfortunately be postponed.

Carl is looking to host some information sessions via Zoom.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Peter Allen – Lead Advisor for D of E Norfolk.

Participants can still work on all levels of the Duke of Edinburgh Awards during lockdown. Peter is available for ongoing support and during this time, if participants usual assessors are not available, a new assessor can be used but the new assessor must not be a family member.

What you can do...

- **'Skill' and 'Physical'** participants can change the skill or physical activities being undertaken and the time spent on previous activities will still count towards completion of the award.
- **'Volunteering'** participants can now volunteer for a family member; for example, act as mentor for a sibling's home-schooling or teach someone in the household a new skill (such as playing a musical instrument).

What you can't do...

- **'Volunteering'** participants cannot use babysitting or housework for this element.

Changes to rules around Silver and Gold Expeditions

When expeditions are able to resume, Silver and Gold Expedition Assessors will temporarily be allowed to be known to the expedition group, as long as the accredited assessor is not the person who delivered the training. This means expeditions in other Counties can go ahead without the need of locating a D of E Gold Assessor from outside Norfolk.



How to record evidence for all Top Awards

Here are some ideas of how to record evidence for an assessor to monitor progress remotely:

- Use an activity log to record what you're doing.
- Take photographs or record a video of your activity.
- Use phone calls and emails to stay in touch with mentors and assessors and communicate regularly.

Many thanks to Peter Allen (Lead D of E Advisor) and Carl Meadows (QSA and SOTW Coordinator) for clarifying the latest information for this PoP.

For more help contact Peter or Carl.

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