

Staffordshire Scouts Expedition Programme 2019



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Social Media

 Staffordshire Scouts Staffordshire Explorers

 @staffordshire.explorers

 @staffsscouts

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Welcome Expeditions 2019

Top Award expeditions in Staffordshire continue to grow for the 6th year running! Last year saw 159 young people take part in 227 nights away, covering over 4400km. Success was achieved by over 100 young people with completed awards.

This year is set to offer the full package with training and expeditions at all levels. Let's use this to enable our Young People to gain more Top Awards than ever before.

If you've never joined the County expedition programme, you're missing out on support, socialising, meeting others and lots more. Over the past 6 years we have learnt a lot and constantly changed our programme to meet the needs of the leaders and the young people. Hopefully this booklet will make your expedition planning for the year stress free and easy.

On with the next successful expedition season and another year of adventures, fun and achievements.

Scout and DofE Awards

Levels and Requirements

Bronze



| Volunteering | Physical | Skills | Expedition |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 3 months* | 3 months* | 3 months* | (plan, train for and complete) 2 days and 1 night |

*You also have to do three more months in one of the Volunteering, Physical or Skills sections as one section has to be for a minimum of 6 months.

Chief Scout's Platinum Award (Explorer Scouts only)

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:



- Be a member of Explorer Scouts for at least six months.
- Complete six nights away, four of which must be camping.
- Complete two activities from the International, Community and Values (ICV) list available online at scouts.org.uk/icvplatinum. Each activity should be from a different area.

Silver



| Volunteering | Physical | Skills | Expedition |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 6 months | One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months | | (plan, train for and complete) 3 days and 2 nights |

If you didn't complete your Bronze DofE Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 6 months. This will make one section a minimum of 12 months.

Chief Scout's Diamond Award (Explorer Scouts and Scout Network)

If you didn't complete your Bronze DofE Award or your Chief Scout's Platinum Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section for which you are already doing for 6 months. This will make one section a minimum of 12 months.



In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 12 months. Complete twelve nights away, eight of which must be camping. This may include the nights counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum Award.
- Complete four activities (or two if you have completed your Chief Scout's Platinum Award) from the ICV list available online at scouts.org.uk/icvdiamond. This should be at least one activity from each area.

Gold



| Volunteering | Physical | Skills | Expedition | Residential |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12 months | One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months | | (plan, train for and complete) 4 days and 3 nights | Take part in a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights |

If you didn't complete your Silver DofE Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 12 months. This will make one section a minimum of 18 months.

Queen's Scout Award (Explorer Scouts aged 16+ and Scout Network)

If you haven't completed your Silver DofE Award or your Chief Scout's Diamond Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 12 months. This will make one section a minimum of 18 months.



In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 18 months. Complete 18 nights away, 12 of which must be camping. This may include the nights counted for the Chief Scout's Diamond Award and Chief Scout's Platinum Award.
- Complete six activities (or two if you have completed your Chief Scout's Diamond Award or four if you have only completed your Chief Scout's Platinum Award) from the ICV list available online at scouts.org.uk/icvqsa, two from each area.
- Give a presentation about your award to a suitable audience.

Ready to get started?

The first step is to decide which level of DofE programme you want to start at and then you need to talk to your Leader or DofE Adviser who can register you for the DofE.

Once registered for DofE, you will receive an eDofE account and a Welcome Pack. It's important that you log into eDofE and keep your account up-to-date, as this is where you will submit your evidence and your Award once it is completed.

From there you will decide on your activities, goals and who your Assessors will be. Then all that's left is to have fun developing new skills and making memories.

Find out more

Ask your Leader for more information and take a look at scouts.org.uk/dofe and DofE.org

For more information about your Scouting Awards, visit members.scouts.org.uk/reachthetop

Awards Calendar 2019

Expedition Training Weekend

15th - 17th March 2019

Platinum/Bronze Expeditions

4th - 5th May

22nd - 23rd June

21st - 22nd September

Diamond/Silver Expeditions

5th - 7th April

24th - 26th August

Queen's Scout Award/Gold Expeditions

Expressions of interest - 28th December

22nd - 25th April

27th - 31st August



Duke of Edinburgh leader training

Please contact Phil if you are interested in any training after the expedition season.



How to Book

DofE Leader Training

Booking forms will become available and will be emailed to DESCs and Explorer leaders when confirmation has been given by Gilwell. Participants need to ensure that they have an eDofE account to make a booking. If you don't have one then please contact Phil Hassall to create an account.

Expedition Training

Bookings for the training weekend can be made at <http://tiny.cc/ca471y> or by scanning the QR code for each individual participant. Payment is made via PayPal on an individual basis on the County website.

Booking and payment must be made by 1st March.

Platinum/Bronze & Diamond/Silver Expeditions

Booking for each expedition can be made as a team at <http://tiny.cc/fcbw0y> or by scanning the QR code in this booklet. A booking form must be completed for each team and returned with payment to the County Office no later than 4 weeks before the expedition. A pack will then be posted out containing information and copies of maps. Route cards, menus and kit lists must be with Phil & Sion (electronically) by dates specified. A copy of the route on the map provided in the pack must be handed in on the morning of the expedition for the County and a copy for the assessor (when applicable) along with the supervisor's supervision plan.

QSA/Gold Expeditions

Expressions of interest must be emailed to Phil & Sion by 15th February 2019. A meeting of all interested will then be arranged to suit those interested, either as individuals or as a group.

Booking deadlines must be adhered to. Late forms or routes will not guarantee places on expedition or an assessor where applicable.

Refunds - once a booking has been made refunds will be considered on individual cases. Failure to attend will result in loss of payment.

Expectations

Bookings

- All bookings must be made through the County Office using the correct booking form.
- Payment must be made when submitting the booking form.
- Payment can be made by bank transfer, cheque or in cash. Contact the County Office for details.
- Booking deadlines are strict and must be kept to.
- If extra support is required, early notification is preferable.

Permits & Form NANs

- These are County run events and a member of the County Team will be the leader in charge and NA permit holder for the event.
- A Nights Away Notification will be completed by the County and sent to all relevant DCs, DESCs and leaders. Please contact your leaders if you would like a list of attendees from your particular district.
- It is the responsibility of the leader to ensure their DC is happy with the County NAN or to submit a separate one for their Unit if requested.
- If an expedition team is entering terrain one, it is the responsibility of the team supervisor to ensure a T1 supervisor permit is in place.

In Touch details are:

- Individual supervisors to hold medical information for their young people. Sion/Phil to contact CC/DCC/relevant DC in case of emergency. These are to be passed on to the leader in charge if the supervisor is unable to stay overnight.
- A medical form will be issued for the training weekend. For expeditions it is the responsibility of the supervisor to arrange these.

Training Weekend

- Young people can attend without a leader.
- Leaders are welcome to visit or stay, please ensure you inform us. Support from some leaders in running activities will be required.
- Young people are expected to bring everything needed for an expedition, packed in a single rucksack. Please ensure young people are aware of suitable kit required.
- Some basic knowledge and experience is expected.
- The weekend is designed mainly for Platinum/Bronze but can also be used to refresh skills or direct entrants for Diamond/Silver.
- There will be walking as part of the weekend.
- Food for leaders will be provided.
- Young people will be supplied with lunch and snacks only. They will be expected to provide their own breakfasts and evening meal. These should be similar to those that they will eat on their expedition.

Expectations

Expeditions

- Bookings are to be made as a team.
- If a full team cannot be formed, contact Phil & Sion asap to see where teams can be joined together. This cannot be guaranteed.
- All expeditions require a supervisor.
- One supervisor can supervise up to 2 teams. If assistance is needed this must be stated on the booking form.
- Inexperienced supervisors are welcome and will be supported as required, please state support required on booking form.
- Upon booking, a pack will be issued to support your planning. This will include copies of the map which will require the route marking on and handing in at the start of the expedition.
- Start times will be confirmed once all booking have been received. Where possible, requested booking times will be used.
- Teams should arrive 30 minutes before their start time.
- Parents will be required to drop off and leave asap to prevent congestion.
- If a start time is missed, the team may have to wait until another available slot to leave due to other teams setting off.
- Supervisors are not required to stay for the night but it is preferred that they do where possible. This must be arranged when booking. Supervisors must ensure their team are safely on site before leaving if not staying for the night.
- Evening meal and breakfast will be provided for leaders.
- GPS trackers will be used to assist in locating teams.
- Each team will be briefed before they leave by a member of the County Team.
- Leaders are expected to support each other and socialise as a team. This makes it a lot more enjoyable and easier for all.

Routes and Paperwork

- All paperwork must be with Phil & Sion (electronically) no later than date stated. This includes route cards, menus and kit lists.
- Young people must use a 1:25000 scale map to navigate.
- Each group must have a real OS map with the route marked, as well as any print outs.
- Routes should be marked in a way that the map can still be clearly seen.
- Two copies of the route highlighted must be handed in before leaving.
- Routes must meet the required hours.
- Route descriptions must include enough detail (place names, left/right etc.) If unsure, ask for an example.
- A supervisor plan, highlighting key supervision points, must be handed in before the team leave. An example template will be included in your pack.

Expedition Training

What to expect

The training weekend is run from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. The aim of the weekend is to develop skills ready for a Platinum/Bronze or Diamond/Silver expedition, but these skills also need reinforcing during unit nights or Network meetings. The weekend covers all areas of the DofE training framework. This will include:

- First aid & emergency procedures
- Navigation & Map skills
- Route planning
- Equipment & rucksack packing
- Countryside Code
- Team Building
- Camping skills
- Equipment to Bring

Explorers will be camping in the tents they plan to use on their expedition. If they are coming as individuals, we will find someone to share a tent with. They are expected to bring everything they would for their expedition all packed in a single rucksack. They must dress for an expedition.

Food

Explorers will be cooking their breakfast and evening meal on the stove they plan to take on their expedition. This should be similar to the menu they plan to use on their expedition. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

Booking & Cost

Booking forms are available on the link or by scanning the QR code on page 13. A booking form must be completed for each participant and returned to the county office with payment no later than Friday 1st March. The cost of the weekend will be £30 per person.

Before they attend

It is expected that the Young People will have a basic knowledge before the course and know what is expected of an expedition e.g. know basic first aid, have seen/used a map before, have pitched a tent before. The aim of the weekend is to develop the basics ready for their expedition.



Platinum/Bronze Expeditions



4th - 5th
May

Start: 1st Stone HQ, Stone (SJ 902 335)
Camp: Sherratt's Wood (SJ 985 348)
Finish: Amerton Farm (SJ 992 277)

Booking deadline: Friday 12th April
Route deadline: Friday 19th April

22nd - 23rd
June

Start: Upper Ellastone Carpark (SK 116 435)
Camp: Rue Hill Campsite (SK 080 478)
Finish: Froghall Wharf (SK 027 477)

Booking deadline: Friday 31st May
Route deadline: Friday 7th June

21st - 22nd
September

Start: Colton Village Hall (SK 052 206)
Camp: Hamstal Ridware (SK 109 186)
Finish: Blithfield Ranger Station (SK 076 234)

Booking deadline: Friday 30th August
Route deadline: Friday 6th September

Cost per expedition: £10 per Explorer.

Diamond/Silver Expeditions



5th - 7th
April

Start: Brandside Village Hall (SK 043 685)

Night 1: Brandside Village Hall (SK 043 685)

Night 2: Gradbach Scout Camp (SJ 994 659)

Finish: Tittesworth Reservoir (SJ 993 601)

Booking deadline: Friday 8th March

Route deadline: Friday 15th March

Arrive at Brandside late Friday evening, walk Saturday & Sunday.
Only required to complete 2 days walking and 2 nights camping
for the practice.

24th - 26th
August

Start: Brand Top Village Hall (SK 043 685)

Night 1: The Royal Oak (SK 127 660)

Night 2: WallBrook Campsite (SK 097 608)

Finish: Alstonfield Car Park (SK 131 556)

Booking deadline: Friday 26th July

Route deadline: Friday 2nd August

Cost per expedition: £25 per Explorer/Network member.

Queen's Scout Award/



Gold Expeditions



22nd - 25th

April

Expedition location will be agreed when individuals and groups meet in January. This expedition will involve the first and fourth day being half day walks, with the other two days being the full 8 hours.

Route deadline for County approval: Monday 4th March

Route deadline for panel approval: Monday 11th March

27th - 31st

August

Expedition location will be agreed when individuals and groups meet in January. This expedition includes an acclimatisation day prior to the expedition beginning.

Route deadline for County approval: Tuesday 2nd July

Route deadline for panel approval: Tuesday 16th July

Cost per expedition will be determined by locations. Price will not include transport to and from expedition areas. This will need to be arranged as a group.

Booking links

Please scan the QR code to book onto the relevant event.

County Expedition Training Weekend

or book at: <http://tiny.cc/ca471y>



Platinum or Diamond County Expedition Weekends

or book at: <http://tiny.cc/fcbw0y>

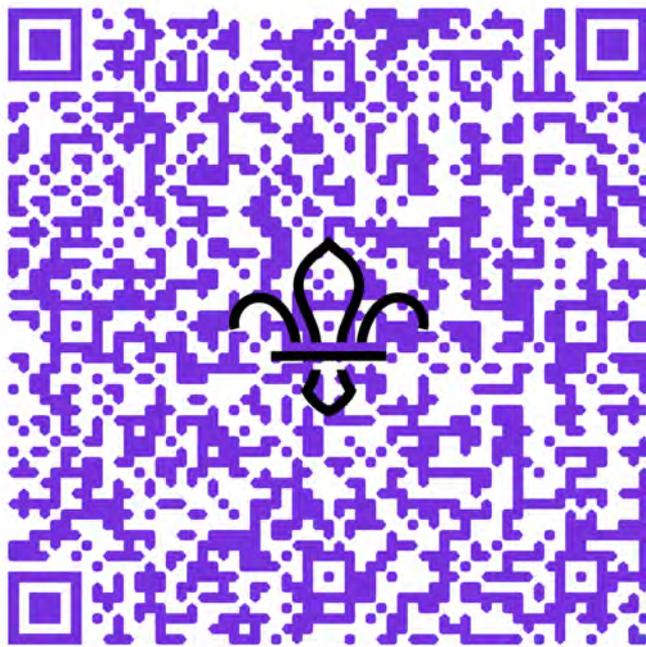


District Plan

Please let us know of your intended plans as a District, Network or unit for the next expedition season.

Scan the QR code to take you to the district plan form, or follow this link:

<http://tiny.cc/vpbw0y>



‘Can you remember the patter of rain on your tent, the sound of owls or the rustling of the wind in the leaves at night? It’s a feeling of absolute freedom and belonging – re-establishing our relationship with both ourselves and planet earth. A night in the outdoors is also a reminder that not everything that’s precious and valuable costs a lot of money.’

Bear Grylls
Chief Scout



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