

Expedition Assessors Reaccreditation Course



Hampshire
County Council

Updated March 2018

What is Reaccreditation Training?



In Hampshire we pride ourselves on the quality of training and good practice within our DofE Team.

You are part of a large team of dedicated and amazing Assessors who support, encourage and help to motivate young people through their assessments. As an Assessor you are also there to ensure that the 20 conditions are met.

In line with your Assessor reaccreditation which will happen every 5 years, you will need to complete this online training module to ensure that your knowledge is current.

As the Operating Authority Licence holder we have a duty to keep Assessors up to date and your co-operation is appreciated.

Who needs to complete this training?

DofE Assessors who completed their original Assessor course or reaccreditation 5 years ago.

Whether you assess regularly or once a year, this training is important to ensure that you maintain current knowledge of the DofE Award and your role as an Assessor.



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The Role of the Assessor



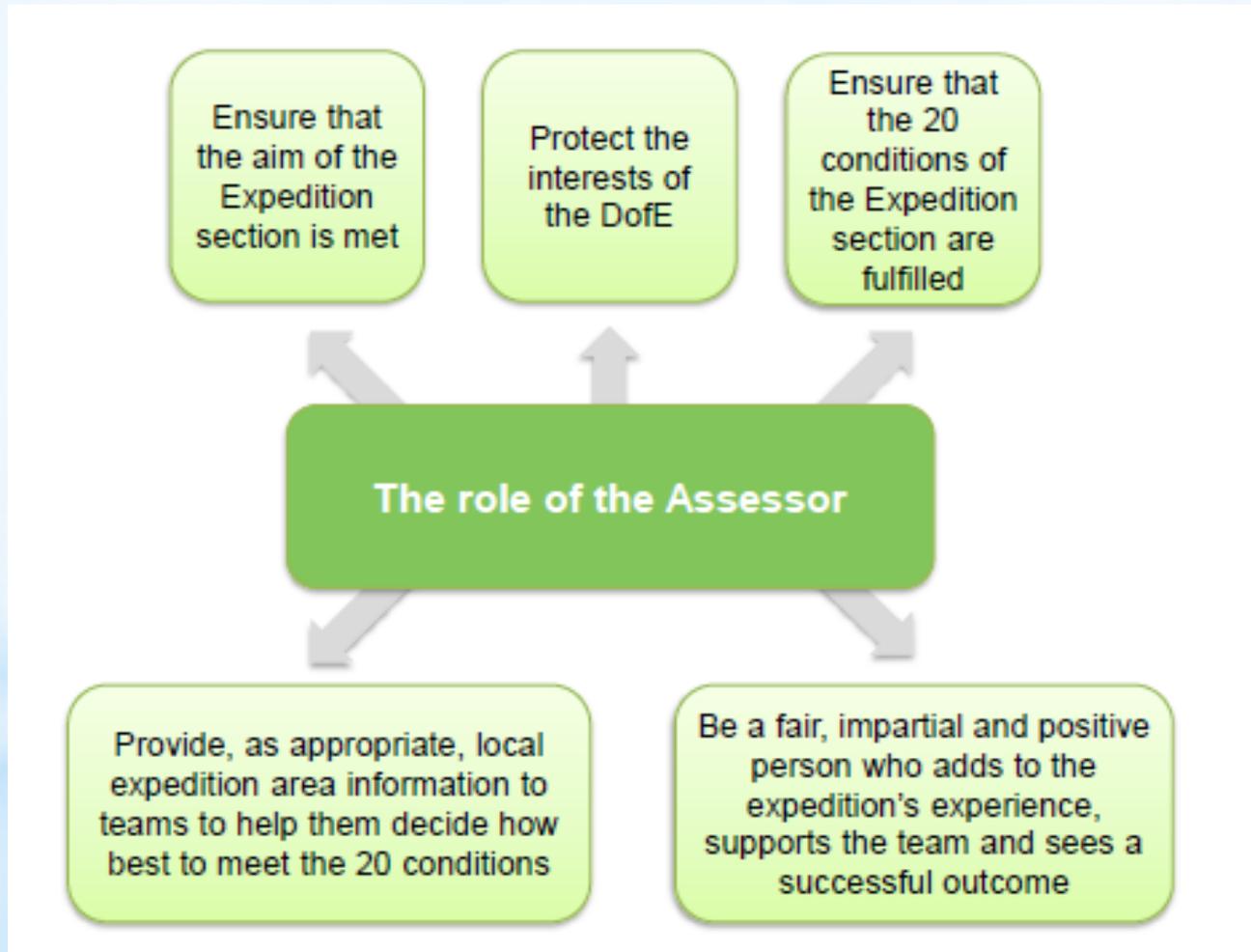
Assessors are the guardians of the high standards of the DofE Award.

The aim of the Expedition Section is:

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

The Assessor's role is to assess against the 20 conditions. It is the Supervisor's role to manage the safety of the participants throughout the expedition.

The Role of the Assessor



20 Conditions



The Expedition section of the award has 20 conditions that all expeditions must comply with -

1. All expeditions must be by the **participants' own physical effort**, without motorised or outside assistance.
2. All expeditions must be **unaccompanied and self-sufficient**.
3. All expeditions **must be supervised** by an adult who is able to accept responsibility for the safety of the team.
4. The expedition must have an **aim**.
5. All participants must be **properly equipped**.

20 Conditions

6. Participants must have completed the **required training** and practice expeditions.
7. At least **one practice expedition** must be undertaken at each level of the programme, in the same mode of travel in a similar environment to the qualifying expedition.
8. The team must **plan and organise** the expedition.
9. Assessment must be by an **approved Accredited Assessor**.
10. There must be between **four and seven in a team** (eight for modes of travel which have tandem).

20 Conditions

11. All participants must be within the **qualifying age** of the programme level.
12. Participants must be at the **same level of assessment**.
13. The team must not include those who have **completed the same or higher level expedition**.
14. Accommodation should be by **camping**.
15. The expedition must be of the **correct duration**.

20 Conditions

16. The expedition should normally take place between the **end of March** and the **end of October**.
17. The expedition should take place in the **recommended environment**.
18. The expedition must meet the **minimum hours** of **planned activity**.
19. A **substantial meal** should be cooked and eaten by participants each day.
20. A **presentation** must be prepared and delivered **after** the expedition.

Variations to the 20 Conditions



If a young person or a centre need to vary one of the 20 conditions, they may need to apply using a variation form.

Full information on variations can be found here:
[Expedition variation process map.](#)

Please remember that the carrying of a day pack and the prepositioning of kit does not require a variation form but should be discussed with the Assessor prior to the expedition.

GPS Trackers

Supervisors may choose to use these devices however despite the stated advantages, there are a number of potential disadvantages to the use of such equipment including:

- Diminishing the sense of challenge to the participants
- Reducing the focus on map and compass work
- Potentially not meeting the team en route and missing the initial signs of a developing problem

There is **no reason** for an assessor to place a tracking device on a group.



First Aid Kits

Each participant should carry their own first aid kit for minor ailments. This means that each young person can tailor the contents to suit them but also ensures that if the team become separated they have sufficient to look after themselves. When the kits are combined they should have resources to deal with a more serious emergency.



Hours of activity

Condition 18 – The expedition must meet the minimum hours of planned activity.

- Bronze** – 6 hours
- Silver** – 7 hours
- Gold** – 8 hours



The hours of planned activity includes the aim work. At least half the time must be journeying, the rest of the time will be used to complete the aim work.

Rests and Lunch Breaks – reasonable time for rests and lunch breaks can be included within the hours of planned activity. (The Expedition Guide suggests a 30 minute lunch.) Setting up camp and cooking cannot be included in the hours.

Distance

To provide the teams with guidance the Expedition Guide provides suggested distances for a team with appropriate breaks and aim work time.

Walking	Level	Distance	Usual Speeds	Some teams may travel much further and other teams may put more time into their aim work. Whatever they choose it needs to be a personal challenge
	Bronze	24-32km	This is based on an average team walking at 3-4km per hour	
	Silver	46-60km		
	Gold	80-96km		
Cycling	Level	Distance	Off road	
	Bronze	105km	53km	
	Silver	177km	89km	
	Gold	240km	120km	

Health and Safety

If the team you are assessing operates under the HCC DofE Licence, the routes will have undergone some basic map checks from the DofE team.

Where possible all teams should avoid walking along or crossing roads. Where the team has planned this, it is the Supervisor's responsibility to ensure they are trained in road safety.



Health and Safety



Local Knowledge for the New Forest

It is highly recommended that teams do not use the railway crossing at Woodfidley railway cottages as this is an ungated pedestrian crossing and considered very dangerous.

Teams should be recommended to use the underpasses available to cross the A35 and A337. Please note A31 must only be crossed by underpass.

If you become aware of something that may cause difficulties for the team on their route please let the Supervisor know.

Assessor Reports



Assessor's reports should be completed as soon as possible after the expedition and definitely within two weeks of the expedition.

They can be completed by going to www.edofe.org/assessors , you will need the young person's name and eDofE number. It is advisable to write the reports in Word and to copy and paste them across.

The reports should contain something personal about each young person along with details about the whole team's expedition.

Assessor Paperwork



After the expedition is complete there is paperwork to be completed for the New Forest Expedition Network, these include

- Expenses claims
- Assessment report
- Problem report (if appropriate).

All of the above can be found by logging into the Assessors' area of the NFEAN website.

<https://www.newforestean.org.uk/>

Finally

As Assessors we are there to assist in providing a positive experience and ensuring the young people meet the 20 conditions.

In the words of Terry Pratchett

“The DofE can be considered a fundamental part of the ‘Make a Human Being’ kit.”



What's next?

Now move onto the quiz here – [Quiz](#)

Once you get 8/8 you'll be able to access the EAAS/8 form which will allow you to complete your reaccreditation.

Make sure you complete the EAAS/8 form and email it to lindsay.hyde@hants.gov.uk

[EAAS8 reaccreditation application form](#)

