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# Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

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The Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme is an opportunity aimed at empowering young people to explore their potential and achieve success. This enriching challenge presents students a balanced, non-competitive program of voluntary activities, which encourages personal discovery and growth, self-reliance, perseverance, responsibility to themselves and service to their community. It is structured so students can design their own unique program centred on their interests and passions. The experiences gained can additionally assist those pursuing part time employment or in choosing a career path in the future.

To achieve the The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award students need to demonstrate a regular commitment to four distinct areas over an extended period of time. Students are able to complete the 'Service' component as a part of the Voluntary Service subject and the 'Adventurous Journey' component as a part of the Outdoor Education subject. Throughout the year, students will be required to undertake the 'Physical Recreation' and 'Skills' components of the award in their own time. At Canowindra, students are supported by a program supervisor in their organisation of these components, the completion of online record keeping, finding service placement and for general program support.

Following Year 9, students are encouraged to progress through to different levels of the Award and to work towards the achievement of the Gold Award in years to come.

## Physical Recreation

Exercise is a great way to clear the mind and gain focus in other aspects of life. This component requires regular commitment to and participation in a physical activity. This could be through a team sport, individual pursuit or just for fun. It does not need to be involvement in a formal competition, but should relate to students' interests and personal goals. **This component is to be completed during students' own time.**

## Skill

Skill is about choosing a non-physical activity which students want to improve in, or have always wanted to try. As it is so broad, Skill provides students with the opportunity to take part in an activity that truly interests them, and develop skills they previously thought out of their reach. Activities chosen should be enjoyable and the goals set, realistic so that at the end of this component, participants feel a real sense of achievement. It could include anything from refereeing, to DJing, to learning a musical instrument to jewellery making. **This component is to be completed during students' own time.**

## Volunteering

Volunteering offers a young person the opportunity to engage with society and gain an understanding of the importance of their role within both their immediate and global community. It gives the chance to connect with individuals and groups they may have previously overlooked or not been aware of, and to make a real difference to their world. Students should be driven by their interests and passions to direct this component; which could include helping the environment, younger children or participating in charity work. **This component is offered as an Authentic Learning subject at Year 9. Students wishing to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Award should select the subject, Voluntary Service.**