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# LEARNING CHOICES PROGRAM

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## Voluntary Service

### DURATION OF SUBJECT

One semester

### SUBJECT TYPE

Authentic Learning

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The program expects students to actively organise a placement in a not-for-profit organisation in the community. Students then attend this placement once a week for the duration of the semester. Students are required to keep a reflective journal and log the hours completed. Placements range from working with animals, children and the elderly to volunteering services for a charity. The students maintain their records each week in the 'Voluntary Service Weekly Record Booklet', to be able to demonstrate that they have met the requirements of the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award; a minimum of 15 hours service over a minimum of three months.

### ASSESSMENT

All students completing Voluntary Service are expected to organise their placement in a timely manner and maintain accurate records of their service over the semester. This subject is assessed both externally as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, if students choose to complete the Award, and by the College.

### Why choose this subject?

Voluntary Service offers students 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 them 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. By getting involved with the community, students enjoy making a real difference to the lives of others, and through this, develop a greater responsibility to themselves and wider society. Through regular commitment, they will begin to form a lifelong habit of community involvement and voluntary service.

This subject can be selected as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, or as an independent subject.