

# DOING YOUR RESIDENTIAL

**Your DofE residential is a key part of your Gold DofE, where you have the opportunity to challenge yourself, learn valuable life skills, embrace new experiences, and have fun with new people.**

You may choose to hone the skills developed through your favourite hobbies like art or photography, or dive into a new experience such as volunteering at a summer camp, working on a conservation project, or going on a cookery or sports course.

You need to meet the Residential Requirements to complete the section. The requirements have flexibilities built in to suit individual needs, so be sure to talk to your Leader and provider before the residential to make sure it's the right level of challenge for you.

## RESIDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS

1. You must be away from home for a minimum of five days and four nights. These should be consecutive but can be split into two blocks within 12 months.
2. You should be in an unfamiliar residential setting.
3. You must stay in shared accommodation with your group for the entire residential. This shouldn't include staying with friends or relatives.
4. Shared activities should take place during the day and the evening and must be purposeful, group-based, and unpaid. This could be training courses, environment and conservation projects, volunteering or be activity-based.
5. The majority of participants should be unknown to you.
6. Groups should have at least five people, including you.
7. The majority of staff should be unknown to you.
8. You should research suitable activities, discuss your interests with your DofE Leader, and follow any pre-activity instructions.
9. Your Licensed Organisation must approve the planned residential and the named Assessor in advance.
10. Flexibilities are available to ensure that participants with specific individual needs can access a residential.  
  
Speak to your DofE Leader if you think you might need to use the flexibilities to access a residential.

The DofE Opportunity Finder is a really helpful tool that helps you search for residential opportunities provided by Approved Activity Providers. You can filter options based on your interests, location, and dates available.

Your residential is more than just an activity week – it's a chance to discover new passions and make memories that will last a lifetime.

## SO, WHAT WILL YOUR RESIDENTIAL BE?



**YOUTH  
WITHOUT  
LIMITS**