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THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Focus on young people's
achievements through undertaking
the Duke of Edinburgh Award with
Cumbria Youth Alliance





July brings lots to celebrate at Cumbria Youth Alliance and good weather means lots of Duke of Edinburgh activity taking place and lots of young people demonstrating their skills and abilities in the outdoors and through undertaking various elements of the awards. For many young people undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award can be life changing it builds confidence, it helps improve skills levels, lets them work as part of a team, lets them undertake social action in their own community and contributes towards their future employability.

Our Duke of Edinburgh Award team here at Cumbria Youth Alliance are Richard Wilson and Nick Landells assisted by Martyn Rossi and Ben Jefferson and we are our own operating authority here in Cumbria. We support over 100 young people directly with our team and support other agencies like Whitehaven Harbour, Phoenix Youth Project and Scouts to put their awards through our accreditation as this makes it a more affordable option for other agencies.

It is not a short programme - it engages with young people over a period of time and offers a progression route should the young people want to pursue this opportunity.

The Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme is available at three levels:



Each of the awards has separate elements:

- Volunteering - undertaking social action in your community
- Physical - undertaking a physical challenge
- Skills - learning a new skill which will help you in your wider life
- Expedition - undertake and expedition (which includes a residential at Gold level)



Join with us to celebrate the June/July 2018 Duke of Edinburgh Activity at Cumbria Youth Alliance

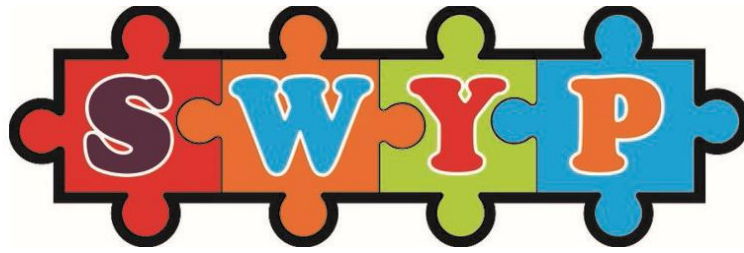
Many of the young people Cumbria Youth Alliance supports are not the usual Duke of Edinburgh participants - we focus on the harder to help and harder to reach young people who will benefit most from undertaking the award. Many are facing challenging times in school or as they move towards independent living and adulthood.

Often they have multiple and complex issues to overcome before they can go on and achieve their award. Despite the barriers we firmly believe that all young people have potential - they just need to be in the right place with the right level of support to enable them to fulfil that potential.

We want you to share in the uplifting successful stories for the last few weeks here at Cumbria Youth Alliance.

Cath Clarke, July 2018

Here is one amazing and inspirational group of young people from West Cumbria who despite the odds achieved at the highest level...



South Workington Youth Partnership led by Angie Good provides a wonderful space for young people who have additional support needs and imposes no barriers on what can be achieved allowing each young person to reach their full potential with help and support on hand if the young people need it.

Working alongside staff from Cumbria Youth Alliance - who are an Operating Authority for Duke of Edinburgh Awards here in Cumbria - this amazing group of young people have achieved even more than they dreamed about when they first started their Duke of Edinburgh journey back in 2016. There was simply no stopping these young people. Having completed their Bronze and Silver Awards, they pushed forward and went onto achieve their Gold DOE award.



This achievement should not be underestimated. For young people with no support needs few go onto achieve their Gold Award yet this group of amazing young people have just been at Hollyrood Palace to receive their Gold Awards.

Working with the Foyer in Whitehaven Cumbria Youth Alliance has been supporting a group of young people who have had difficult issues to overcome on their journey towards adulthood.

Working together on the Duke of Edinburgh Award has been a bonding activity for the young people. They have worked well together as a team, supporting and encouraging each other - they have been learning new skills, undertaking physical challenges and here they are last weekend on their practice expedition last weekend. Next step the expedition itself! Let's hope you get a cooler weekend for the expedition!!



Feeling the heat!



Having fun - learning new skills and helping others in the Community through the volunteering elements of the award

We often forget about the other three elements of the award and focus on the outdoors /expedition elements of the award but for one young group of school pupils they have been focussing on their volunteering/social action elements and have been organising a “colour run” with all the funds they raised going to West Cumbria Mind.



Well done everybody what an amazing achievement!

Photographs show young people from St Benedict's School at the sports event at West Lakes - pictured along with Ben Jefferson and Martyn Rossi from Cumbria Youth Alliance.

A taster day for Duke of Edinburgh

Young people on the Big Lottery Funded Emotional Resilience 6 week programme enjoying getting out in the outdoors with Nick Landells our Duke of Edinburgh Assessor.



Hopefully they will be signing up to undertake the Duke of Edinburgh in 2018/2019. For some of the young people who have newly arrived in Cumbria this was their first opportunity to get out and enjoy our spectacular scenery and improve their fitness levels.

More outdoor adventure

Cockermouth School on their Silver practice with Richard Wilson from Cumbria Youth Alliance





None of this would be possible without our many funders who continue to support our work with the Duke of Edinburgh Awards and this year our funders were:

Frances C Scott Charitable Trust
Swire Charitable Trust
Workington Town Council
CLA Charitable Trust
Douglas Arter Charitable Trust
DM Thomas Charitable Trust
Alpkit Foundation
Rotary Clubs West Cumbria
West Cumbria Achievement Legacy Fund
Rowrah Kart Racing





**Thank you to all of our funders and
congratulations to all of you
wonderful young people for your
fantastic achievements!**

Cath Clarke, July 2018

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