

Frequently Asked Questions Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award Takapuna Grammar School

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD AND THE YOUNG NEW ZEALANDERS' CHALLENGE OR THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S HILLARY AWARD?

Absolutely nothing! The Award Programme is an International youth development programme operating in over 130 countries. Most of these countries develop their own unique name for the Programme and New Zealand, in August 2009, recently launched its new name, The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award. This links an iconic Youth Programme and the world's most famous New Zealander, Sir Edmund Hillary and it is seen as positively providing a lasting form of recognition amongst New Zealanders.

IS THIS WORTH HAVING ON MY CV?

You bet! Completing your Award shows that you have stick ability, commitment, reliability ... the list is endless.

HOW DO I START THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S HILLARY AWARD?

You can contact the person who coordinates The Programme for the group or school that you're involved with or contact The National Office to get started. For Takapuna Grammar School – g.simpkins@takapuna.school.nz Grant Simpkins located Student Support - 4894167

I'M NOT QUITE 14 CAN I START THE AWARD?

There are some circumstances where this may be possible. You will need to talk to your Coordinator about this, they will be able to help.

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CAN YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY DO THE AWARD?

Indeed they can - because the targets that they set will be ones that they can achieve. The activities within the four Sections will be ones that are within their capabilities.

MY FAMILY HAS MOVED TO A DIFFERENT PLACE - HOW DO I CONTINUE WITH THE AWARD?

[Contact the National Office](#) and we'll put you in touch with the group nearest to you.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

The basic cost of each Record Book (at either Bronze, Silver or Gold level) is \$40 for Takapuna Grammar School. Some organisations have administrative costs that also need to be paid (Administration cost included in this \$40 fee). There will be other costs along the way eg Adventurous Journey costs – these costs are enclosed on TGS website.

I'M MOVING OVERSEAS CAN I CONTINUE WITH THE AWARD?

Yes - you can. The Award operates in over 130 countries. The National Office can give you the contact information for the country you're going to.

I'M NOT GOOD AT SCHOOL WORK, CAN I DO THE AWARD?

Yes you can - The Programme is for all young people aged between 14 and 25. Remember that the only person you compete with is yourself. You set the goals and you achieve them.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE AWARD?

Service - where you do something for someone else.

Adventurous Journey - where you (and at least 3 other people) plan, prepare and participate in a venture of some sort.

Skills - where you learn something for yourself of a non physical nature.

Physical Recreation - where you participate in some form of physical activity.

Residential Project (at Gold level only) - where you spend a week away from home in a residential setting, with people who you don't know all that well doing some shared activity.

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CAN I DO THE SAME ACTIVITY FOR EACH SECTION?

You can if there is the opportunity for you to improve. Having said that we wouldn't encourage you to do the same thing for each Section of your Award all the way through. Why not try something you have never done before?

CAN I DO SKATEBOARDING FOR MY SKILL?

Sorry, Skill activities need to be primarily of a non-physical nature - but you can use it for your Physical Recreation instead.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON PLANNING ADVENTUROUS JOURNEYS?

Try the following websites:

- [Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ](#)
- [Department of Conservation](#)
- [NZ Land Search & Rescue](#)
- [Up-to-date information on backcountry snow stability and avalanche danger](#)
- [Snow related information site](#)
- [NZ Outdoor Instructions Association](#)

The New Zealand Mountain Safety Council also runs many good courses on mountain and outdoor safety. Click [here](#) for further details.

CAN I DO MY PRACTICE JOURNEY BEFORE MY ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY TRAINING?

The best way to answer this is with another question ... "what would you be practising?" You need to complete all your training and then do your practice journey(s) in order to practise what you've learnt.

WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT: HOURS OR MONTHS FOR SERVICE?

Both - you are committing yourself to regular service over the time period. Remember it is Okay to do more than the required hours.

IS INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAMME AVAILABLE IN OTHER LANGUAGES?

Yes. Pamphlets explaining the programme are available in seven languages (English, Maori, Chinese, Tongan, Samoan, Korean and Japanese). You can obtain them from the Coordinator of The Programme at your school or group or through the National Office in Lower Hutt.

HOW LONG DOES MY PRACTICE ADVENTUROUS JOURNEY HAVE TO BE?

Your practice is to make sure that you are fully prepared for your qualifying trip. You are there to make sure that you have all the gear you need (while not taking too much) and that you can actually walk for the number of hours each day that you will need to on your qualifier.

For Bronze this is to be one night (2 days) with 6 hours of effort and activity each day.

For Silver this is to be two nights (2-1/2 days) with 7 hours of effort and activity each day.

For Gold this is to be two nights (2-1/2 days) with 8 hours of effort and activity each day.

Hours of effort are pro-rated for the half days.

This should be enough for you to work out whether you need to do more training or rethink your gear list.