

Royal Rewards for students at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy

Students from Royal Wootton Bassett Academy have been celebrating after receiving their Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Parents, carers, teachers, and support staff joined upto 200 students who had gained their Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh badges and certificates at the awards ceremony on Tuesday (30/06) at the school.



The internationally renowned programme, which has been running since 1956 and founded by Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, is designed to help young people build confidence, develop new skills, and gain valuable life experience.

Participants must complete four main areas of activities:

- Volunteering – helping others or supporting a community project.
- Physical – improving in a sport, fitness activity, or physical challenge.
- Skills – learning or developing a skill, such as cooking, music, coding, or photography.
- Expedition – planning, training for, and completing a team journey in the countryside.



For the Gold Award, participants also take part in a Residential section, where they spend time away from home working with new people on a shared activity.

The Royal Wootton Bassett students receiving their awards

This Academy is proud to be a part of the Ascend Learning Trust.

took part in volunteering and expeditions last year (2025).

All volunteered at a wide range of local businesses and charities, including, animal shelters, charity shops, sports clubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides and park runs.

Emma Barnard-Williams, who runs the programme at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, said: “The programme is challenging at every level, so each young person here tonight has worked so very hard to earn their award.



“All of those students who took part have carried out more than £22,000 worth of social value volunteering hours in total. That’s a lot of working in the local community. It’s good quality time spent as it will help these young people grow, make them more

resilient, help with job applications, and boost their confidence.

“This year is extra special too because The Duke of Edinburgh Award is celebrating its 70th anniversary.

“I also want to thank all the staff who give up their free time to help run the programme. Without them we, as a school, would find it much harder to run the awards.”



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