

Parent Involvement Guidelines

Parents can be integral supporters for youth working towards their Award. So much so that we have developed these parent engagement guidelines for parents of Duke of Ed participants. More information on how parents can best support their youth in achieving the Award, can be found on our Parent webpage at www.dukeofed.org/bcparents

The Award framework is based on the principals of self-development and personal achievement for young people. As such, in keeping with the spirit of the Duke of Ed, it is hoped that young people will contact the Division office themselves (or their Award Leader if they have one) when they require guidance and/or support in carrying out their Award activities.

Ideally, when young people need to contact our office, parents can support their youth by coaching them in communicating with us via phone, email, or in person. Doing the Award is a phenomenal opportunity for youth to learn how to take responsibility, seek help, and find solutions. Our team is friendly, open, and trained in supporting youth.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an internationally recognized standard of leadership excellence for young people. The activities and standards required for achievement reflect this. As such, we expect parents to support their youth by upholding these standards and completing Award activities in keeping with the spirit of the Award.

If a parent has a concern about their youth's Award experience, they should contact the Executive Director of the Division. Contact information can be found at www.dukeofed.org/bc/about-us.

Parents who contact Duke of Ed staff or visit our office on behalf of their youth are welcome and expected to comply with our respectful workplace policies. As such, verbal abuse including, but not limited to, raised voices, threats, ridicule, and other forms of demeaning or aggressive communication is not acceptable and staff are instructed to end communication in such circumstances and report the behavior to the Executive Director who will follow up appropriately. A parent's failure to abide by our respectful workplace policies may possibly result in suspension from contacting the Award Office on behalf of their youth.