

# The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

expeditions and outdoor experiences

in Bedford and North Wales



# About Us

**Fusion** – Blue Peris Mountain Centre located in Snowdonia, North Wales and Kempston Outdoor Centre in Bedford are both operated by Fusion, an experienced sports and leisure organisation, on behalf of Bedford Borough Council. Fusion educates thousands of children each year and work in partnership with local authorities, schools and colleges, and other public sector organisations, to provide recreational sport, health and fitness activities to local communities. As a registered charity Fusion's incoming resources are used to improve and develop it's all its facilities and activities.

**Licenced and approved** – Blue Peris Mountain Centre and Kempston Outdoor Centre both hold licences under the Adventurous Activities License Scheme, and are approved activity providers for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions, with Blue Peris also approved for Gold residential courses.



The teams have decades of experience and expertise in leading and assisting groups and individuals. All staff are DBS checked to an enhanced level, and all instructors hold outdoor first aid certificates.

**Quality** – Both centres hold the Adventures Activities Industry Advisory Committee (AAIAC) Adventure Mark and have a quality badge from the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom.



## Schools and Groups

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award affords your pupils or group members the opportunity to gain a variety of experiences and life skills that they would not always be able to obtain in a traditional learning environment.

**Flexible** – Whether it is a day-based session in our Bedford site, an expedition, or a full residential experience in Snowdonia, the team are on hand to make sure clients receive a package tailored to their needs.

**Recognition** – Having The Duke of Edinburgh's Award will enhance the records of your student or group members when they apply for further education or work. Many institutions regard the gold award as equivalent to a good A-Level.

**Assessors** – Many schools or groups do not have staff with the experience to be able to operate a Duke of Edinburgh's Award experience. Our team is made up of qualified and accredited assessors, which means we can run and help you prepare for the award.

**Assistance and explanation** – Our team can assist with administration and planning of the award, and explain the benefits of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award to parents or other stake holders in your organisation.



# Individuals

Are you, or your child, part of a school or group that does not support The Duke of Edinburgh's Award? We don't believe that this should prevent people taking part, so have developed the following opportunities:

**Open Expeditions** - We will ensure that participants are grouped with other individuals at the same standard to complete their training at all award levels. As well as working towards the award, open expeditions are a great way to meet people and make new like-minded friends.

**Gold** - Join others and achieve the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award with a week of outdoor activities whilst staying in Blue Peris Mountain Centre's comfortable accommodation.



## Get Qualified

Teachers and leaders can be inspirational to their pupils or groups members. If you've got a passion for the outdoors, getting qualified is the perfect way to channel your enthusiasm whilst at the same time gaining a recognised qualification which can benefit your followers, place of work and career.

**Awards** - We offer a variety of awards including qualifications to lead your own The Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition, the Hill and Moorland Award, Mountain Leadership and Off Site Safety Management.

**First Aid** - Knowing what to do in an emergency situation is vital, especially if you are with a group in a remote location. We offer specialist outdoor First Aid courses including First Aid and Rescue and Emergency Care (REC) courses.

**Refresh** - If you have gained an outdoor qualification but haven't used it in a while, or if you want to brush up on your skills and knowledge, then we offer personalised packages that will suit your requirements and bring you back up to scratch.



# Blue Peris Mountain Centre

Whether it is for a single day course or a residential visit, Blue Peris Mountain Centre, located in the picturesque Snowdonia National Park, offers the ideal base to enjoy, explore and learn in one of the UK's ultimate environments.

Along with The Duke of Edinburgh's Award the centre offers a wide range of outdoor education programmes including GCSE and A-level PE modules, plus programmes for colleges and universities. The cross-curricular activities on offer at Blue Peris Mountain Centre include: abseiling, underground exploration and mountain walking, plus water-based activities including: kayaking, coasteering and white-water rafting to name but a few.

Upon booking the team will work with visitors to create a bespoke trip, whether it is to complement existing studies or just for fun!

Blue Peris Mountain Centre's modern and comfortable catered and self-catered residential facilities include White Peris Lodge, which has been awarded 4 Stars by Visit Wales. It has onsite parking and is located close to the town of Bangor which has direct train links to London.



# Kempston Outdoor Centre

You don't need to travel far to experience the outdoors.

Located next to the River Great Ouse in Bedford, Kempston Outdoor Centre is the perfect place for schools, clubs, groups and individuals to take part in a variety of activities and experiences including canoeing, high ropes, archery and raft building. Plus, there is also an indoor climbing wall that will engage participants bodies and minds whilst learning and developing new skills.

Along with aiding participants to gain The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Kempston Outdoor Centre's activities can be linked to existing educational syllabuses to help pupils achieve qualifications including GCSE AS and A levels.



## Next Steps

We look forward to speaking to you further, and tailoring a package to suit you or your group.

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