

## **DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD**

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a nationally recognised Youth Award programme that has been proven to develop vital life skills in young people. We are delighted that we are able to run the award at Toynbee and have overseen the successful completion of the award by many cohorts of students over the years. DofE awards are rewarding, memorable and enjoyable experiences which can make a difference not only to individual participants, but also to schools and their local communities.

For individual pupils the DofE programme offers the opportunity to develop personal skills, confidence, leadership qualities, initiative, and teamwork. The programme is also highly regarded by universities and employers and helps applicants to stand out from the crowd in what are extremely competitive environments. Independent research conducted by the United Learning Trust with major employers showed that a DofE Award was the first thing they looked for on a CV after formal academic qualifications.

The DofE programme provides us with a framework to deliver a wide-range of extracurricular activities which help our students to improve their life skills and encourage those with low self-esteem.

The Volunteering section of the DofE programme allows participants to make a difference to their community and the lives of others through activities such as conservation projects, youth work or fundraising, to name just a few.