

# THE AWARD AT HOME IDEAS

## Assessors

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S  
INTERNATIONAL AWARD  
ROMANIA



### **I am an Assessor and my Participant has added a new Activity to an Award Section that they can do remotely or from home. Who can be their Assessor if they will only have physical contact with their family?**

If you can, you can still act as their Assessor remotely. In this instance, Participants should create entries on Online Record Book, photo and video records as well as use other remote communication channels such as video calls to check in with you. A parent/guardian can liaise with you to assist in verifying the Participant's progress with their Section.

In most circumstances, an Assessor should not be a family member, however, exceptions may be granted by the Award Leader, on behalf of the Award Centre, or the National Award Foundation who will consider the level and nature of familiarity of the Award Participant and any special needs' relationship e.g. medical or special care provider.

### **I can no longer be an Assessor for my Participant, what should I do?**

Please advise the Participant to contact their Award Leader. With prior approval from their Award Leader (can be via email) a Participant's Award Leader can act as their Assessor for the activity.

Family members can support a Participant and their Award activities during this time however they will need to maintain detailed Online Record Book logs with supporting photos, videos etc. and regular contact (telephone, email etc.) with their Award Leader.

### **How can Parents assist their children to complete their Award Sections when in a remote or isolated situation?**

Assessors and Supervisors need to be independent. Parents or family members can only be an Activity Assessor or a Supervisor in exceptional circumstances requiring prior approval of the Award Leader on behalf of the Award Centre. Where there is any doubt, the use of a family member as an Assessor or Supervisor needs to be approved by the National Award Foundation in Romania.

An Assessor is a suitably skilled, experienced and/or qualified adult in the Participant's chosen activity. Their role is to engage with Participants and offer guidance, mentoring and encouragement. Assessors are approved by the Participant's Award Leader and must agree to and sign the Award's Volunteer Code of Conduct.

Assisting the Approved Assessor: Parents and family members can, however be recognized by the Award Leader in an assistant role to the Assessor. For example: providing on the spot guidance; monitoring engagement and effort; verifying the regular participation; providing verbal or video feedback to the Assessor. It is important to note that the Assessor must however prepare the final report and sign off that regular effort was shown, progress was made towards the personal goal, the minimum hours and the duration requirements were met.

\*On what grounds (exceptions) would approval be given?

- **Medical conditions:** Where a family member needs to attend to medications or support other medical conditions
- **Remote:** Where it is impractical or costly for an Activity Assessor to regularly support and monitor the Participant's activity
- **Highly specialized expertise/unusual pursuit:** The activity chosen and approved by the Award Leader is not common and realistic/reasonable access to an Activity Assessor is a family member

Understanding the Principles used to design the Award program helps ensure its impact and effectiveness is maintained. It makes interpretation of the conditions where flexible is allowed, much easier and assists consistency in interpretation. These principles are design features and explain why the Award has such a positive impact.

More details can be found on our website, [www.dofe.ro](http://www.dofe.ro)