



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD
GWOBR DUG CAEREDIN

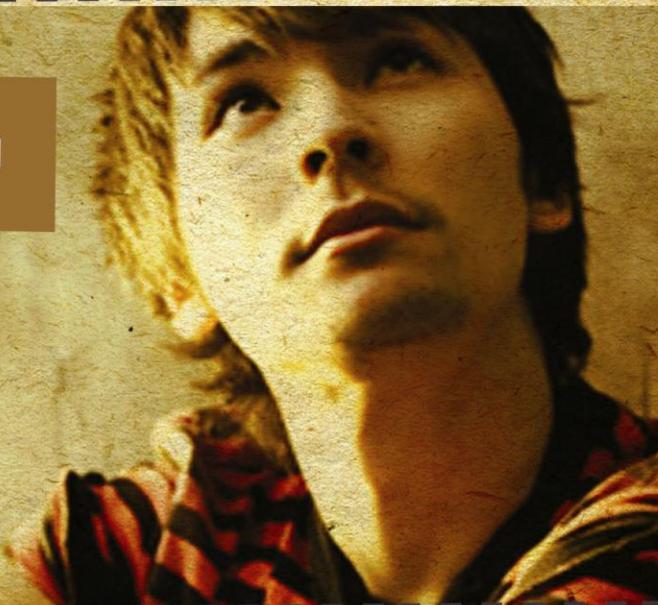
DofE & Shelter Cymru

PARTNERSHIP GUIDELINES FOR

HOUSEMATE

PART OF THE SHELTER CYMRU EDUCATION SERVICE

www.housemate.org.uk



www.dofe.org/wales

Shelter
Cymru

www.sheltercymru.org.uk



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.wales.gov.uk

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1. Introduction

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Wales and Shelter Cymru have developed a set of guidelines that can be used to incorporate Shelter Cymru's *Housemate* – a Welsh Government funded resource pack for professionals working with young people – into the skills section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme. We believe that this will meet a number of important objectives, including helping young people to make a successful transition to independent living and preventing homelessness through early education and advice.

The following document will set out the partnership vision, how to use the *Housemate* pack in relation to the skills section of the award and relevant local contacts to help you set up your own Duke of Edinburgh programme, link in with other Duke of Edinburgh providers or access support in your area.

2. Partnership Vision

As part of its five year strategy the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Wales has set out to provide more opportunities for young people from disadvantaged and diverse backgrounds to take part and complete their own Duke of Edinburgh journey. Research suggests that young people from backgrounds with fewer opportunities such as those who are at risk of becoming homeless often have the most to gain from completing a Duke of Edinburgh programme.

In turn, Shelter Cymru's Education Service focuses on the prevention of homelessness through early education and believes that all young people should have a positive leaving home experience. It seeks to ensure that young people across Wales, regardless of their situation, should have basic knowledge and awareness of the issues surrounding homelessness and housing related information relevant to young people. The *Housemate* pack is a teaching resource with worksheets and activities on a range of housing and homelessness issues.

Collaboratively, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Wales and Shelter Cymru have developed a set of objectives with a vision to:

- Provide opportunities for all young people to develop skills, confidence and to gain a recognised qualification in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.
- Raise awareness of homelessness and leaving home education; helping all young people have a positive leaving home experience.
- Ensure all young people have access to the opportunities and information offered through the medium of Welsh and English in line with the organisations' Welsh Language Scheme.

3. How it works

Within the various sections of the *Housemate* pack, worksheets are aimed at different key stages within the education system. Therefore, each section should have worksheets suitable for each individual young person you work with. To make the most of the Independent Living skill programme, the *Housemate* pack should not be used in isolation.

The Skills section is all about developing practical and social skills and personal interests. By choosing to develop a particular skill, the young person will not only develop a new talent but also boost their self-esteem, develop practical and social skills and learn how to set and rise to a challenge. If this isn't enough, it should also be good fun!

Learning a life skill really can be life changing! This guide provides opportunities to equip young people with the skills to look at the impact of homelessness and how to go about living independently. It provides a cross section of activities and learning outcomes to prepare young people for the challenges that lie ahead.

Bronze

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
3 months	3 months	3 months	Plan, train for and complete a 2 day, 1 night expedition
All participants must undertake a further three months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.			

The time scale for completing the skills element of the Bronze Award three months, which should be broken down to an average of an hour a week for 12 weeks.

Elements of the *Housemate* pack can also be used within the Silver and Gold Award programmes. For further information and support on how you may incorporate *Housemate* in the other awards, please contact your local DofE Development Officer. (Pages 7/8)

4. Incorporating Housemate

Identifying the content and skills relating to the Housemate pack

Each section of *Housemate* develops soft skills, life skills and social awareness.

*First bullet point – brief content

*Second bullet point – skills developed (a more detailed identification of skills and ranges in line with the national curriculum can be found at the beginning of the pack in ‘curricular references’)

Section 1: What is a home?

- Meaning of home
- Discussion / debate

Section 2: What is homelessness?

- Empathy, communication, understanding of people who are homeless
- Interviewing skills, debate, challenging opinions and attitudes, decision making and knowledge.

Section 3: Leaving home

- Knowledge on emergency accommodation, things to consider when planning to leave home
- Planning, preparation and conflict resolution

Section 4: Where would I want to live?

- Housing options for young people, advantages/disadvantages, lifestyle
- Understanding, decision making,

Section 5: Living in my own place

- Sharing accommodation, ground rules, bills, budgeting, priorities, entitlements
- Life skills- budgeting, prioritising, planning, sensible shopping

Section 6: Help others - Work in housing

- Identifying and matching own skills to jobs/careers
- Self motivation, link to volunteering

Section 7: Bricks and Mortar - Buying a home

- Knowledge and considerations on viewing and buying a property, bills and costs
- Prioritising, understanding, decision making

Example programme

The following example demonstrates how the *Housemate* pack can be used alongside other relevant skills to create a 12 week programme. This is an example only and may not be appropriate for all young people. There are many subject and skill areas within the pack that can be used. The programme developed should be relevant and appropriate to the young person and can include many other different activities for example, you may want to give the young person a budget and get them to shop for the cooking activity or you may feel it unnecessary to include sexual health and would like to include an activity in the environment and recycling... the options are endless.

Week	Subject	Week	Subject
1	Meaning of a home (<i>Housemate</i> Section 1)	7	Preparing and cooking a meal (Incorporating food safety and cooking an actual meal)
2	Develop a plan for leaving home (<i>Housemate</i> Section 3)	8	Research why are people homeless (Link with Section 2)
3	Where can I live? (<i>Housemate</i> Section 4)	9	Drug and alcohol activity
4	Safety in the home and basic first aid (Local first aid course/ police/safety officer)	10	Sexual health (Information and discussion)
5	Managing money (<i>Housemate</i> Section 5)	11	Being involved with the community
6	Benefits (<i>Housemate</i> Website) www.housemate.org.uk	12	Volunteering/Working in housing (<i>Housemate</i> Section 6)

5. Contacts

5.1 Local Duke of Edinburgh Development Officers

If you are interested in developing your own Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme or are looking for further information and support you can contact your local DofE Development Officer below.

Anglesey:	Robin Jones rcjones@kathrob.freeseve.co.uk
Blaenau Gwent:	Catherine Parker catherine.parker@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
Bridgend:	Zoe Jones zoe.jones@bridgend.gov.uk
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Duke of Edinburgh's Award Wales

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 @dofewales

 /WalesDofE

5.2 Shelter Cymru Education Service

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