UNLOCKING INFINITE POTENTIAL
HELPING YOUNG PEOPLE THRIVE IN A CHALLENGING WORLD
WHO WE ARE

Established more than half a century ago to help young people navigate a new world, the need for The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award has never been greater.

Today, young people across the world face unprecedented challenges, as their wellbeing, access to education, and lack of decent work are all under severe pressure.

During the pandemic alone:
- More than 1.5 billion young people have been affected by school closures 1
- More than 1 in 6 young people have become unemployed since the beginning of the crisis 2
- 86% of young people are worried about their future 3

We need to take action to ensure ‘generation disrupted’ does not become ‘generation lost’.

Supporting young people to:
- Find their purpose, place and passion in the world
- Build self belief, resilience and adaptability
- Be positive agents of change, for themselves and their communities
- Take control of their lives and their futures

1 UNESCO 2020 | 2 International Labour Organization (ILO), 2020 | 3 U-Report, in collaboration with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
Open to all young people aged 14-24, regardless of background; the Award is genuinely inclusive. It can be a powerful tool to support young people leading particularly challenging lives - such as those with a disability, living in poverty, young parents, refugees, young offenders, those who are at risk or marginalised.

Just as no two young people are the same, no two Awards are the same. Whilst the Award’s framework remains the same wherever it is delivered, each young person designs and creates their own bespoke programme, unique to them and their situation.

The Award is delivered via hundreds of thousands of youth-focused partners and operators, including schools, youth organisations, examination boards and youth offender institutions.

The skills and qualities that the Award helps young people to develop can change their lives, and the lives of others.

It grows awareness and understanding. It empowers participants to reach out beyond their situation to build a new future. We want every young person to have this opportunity; to have equal access to the Award.

Explore the 120+ countries of the Award here
The value and impact of the Award extends far beyond the intrinsic benefits enjoyed by the young people.

We believe the Award framework can be a blueprint for investing in human capital, specifically strengthening resilience, improving employability and entrepreneurship, promoting global prosperity and helping the world’s most vulnerable.

The Award does this through working in partnership with young people and their communities, supporting them in finding their own development solutions.

Participation in the Award also directly supports young people to contribute to a number of the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Quality Education and Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Our established impact measurement initiatives, developed in collaboration with academic institutions and partners have revealed that the Award has a direct, positive impact (both financial and non-financial) on the people and communities it touches.

In 2020, the Award had a Global Social Value of £400 million.
ALUMNI NETWORK
The Award has a growing network of Global Alumni, offering events, expertise and lifelong connection to the Award family. For more information and to watch recent events, click here.

GLOBAL YOUTH MOBILIZATION
A movement of young people taking action to improve their lives now and in a post-COVID-19 world. Supported by the Award and the world’s largest youth organisations. Find out more.

STAND BY ME
A ground-breaking partnership, which sees The Award in the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia partner with UNICEF, to provide vital support to young people who have been displaced or impacted by the war in Ukraine. Read more here.

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