

Programme planner: Volunteering section

The Award is the world's leading youth achievement Award which gives 14-24 year olds the opportunity to be the best they can be. There are three progressive levels of programmes, which when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Gaisce - The President's Award and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award work in partnership through the Joint Award Initiative (JAI) to offer Award participants in Northern Ireland a choice of recognition for their achievements. They can choose a Duke of Edinburgh's Award, a Gaisce – The President's Award or a Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Certificate.

What is this programme planner for?

When completing each section of your programme, you should develop a programme which is specific and relevant to you. This sheet will help you to plan your programme for the Volunteering section. For help and support either see your Leader or visit www.theawardni.org.

The Volunteering section – why do it?

Volunteering gives you the chance to make a difference to people's lives and use your skills and experience to help your local community. It gives you the opportunity to become involved in a project or with an organisation that you really care about.

How long do I have to volunteer for?

Level	Minimum time	Notes
Bronze	3 to 6 months	You need to do one of your Volunteering, Physical or Skills sections for 6 months, the others for 3.
Silver	6 to 12 months	If you haven't achieved your Bronze you need to extend your Volunteering or the longer of your Physical or Skills sections to 12 months.
Gold	12 to 18 months	If you haven't achieved your Silver you need to extend your Volunteering or the longer of your Physical or Skills sections to 18 months.

Programme plan for: *(your name)* _____

What kind of volunteering do you want to get involved with in your community? *(tick box)*

- Coaching, teaching and leadership
 Community action and raising awareness
 Helping a charity or community organisation
 Helping people
 Working with the environment or animals

Detailed activity chosen:

Where are you going to do it?

What are your goals? What do you want to achieve?

Who is going to support and assess you?