



# The Role of the Supervisor during Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions



*This sheet is a summary of the key points on Pages 60-61 of The Award Handbook, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition and Chapter 6.2, pages 413-420 of the Expedition Guide, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition and lays out the minimum level of Supervision expected by Kent Scouts with the Scout Association as Operating Authority. It is recommended that prospective supervisors read these chapters.*

**The Supervisor is a suitably experienced and/or qualified adult, responsible to Kent Scouts, who accepts responsibility for the safety and pastoral care of participants while they are carrying out their Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition, in addition to any responsibilities required by the Explorer/Network Unit. This is NOT the responsibility of the Assessor, but he/she may give guidance and advice if the situation dictates.**

The key tasks for the supervisor are:

- ✓ **Take responsibility for the safety and pastoral care of all the participants during the Expedition.**
- ✓ Understand the aims, objectives, requirements and conditions of the Award Expedition Section.
- ✓ Liaise closely with the Unit Leader to ensure the participants and parents are aware of the unaccompanied and self-reliant nature of the Expedition, by issuing itineraries and collecting consent forms.
- ✓ Liaise closely with the Assessor regarding the plans for the Expedition.
- ✓ Must be sufficiently experienced and competent in the mode of travel to be able to provide safe and effective supervision.
- ✓ Ensure that their own experience and qualifications are suitable for the activity, area and weather conditions pertaining during the venture.
- ✓ Acquire a thorough knowledge of the route, checkpoints and plans for the Venture.
- ✓ Arrange and attend a pre-expedition check with the Assessor.
- ✓ Participate in the meeting between the Assessor and the group at the point of departure.
- ✓ **Must be present** in the area where the Expedition is taking place for its entire duration.
- ✓ **Must be based** in the area for Expeditions in Wild Country
- ✓ **Must be based** in the area for all Water Expeditions.
- ✓ **Must not** be involved in activities or work or have responsibilities that would prevent them from rendering urgent and effective assistance to the participants.
- ✓ Always carry all relevant safety documentation that may be required.
- ✓ Make contact with the group during each day, in conjunction with the Assessor, for the needs of assessment and supervision.
- ✓ Visit the group at the campsite during each evening and again in the morning.
- ✓ Review the Expedition separately with the participants and the Assessor, or together, if invited by the group.