



QUEEN'S BADGE

GUIDANCE FOR CONTINUING THE AWARD DURING 2020-21 SESSION



The **Queen's Badge** is the highest award that may be gained by a member of The Boys' Brigade. It aims to challenge and equip the individual, provide new opportunities and expand horizons while remaining accessible to young people of all abilities. We don't want the opportunities that Queen's Badge provides to stop because of the ongoing Coronavirus/Covid-19 pandemic, we want young people to continue to thrive and take opportunity to focus during these times to continue with their award.

A REMINDER OF THE REQUIREMENTS - in order to achieve the Queen's Badge a young person must complete the following (2020/21 session revisions in red):

<p>Hold the President's Badge</p>	<p>The young person will register for Queen's Badge when completing their President's badge. At this point we recommend you register the young person for a Skills for Queen's Badge Course.</p>
<p>Attend a Candidate's Meeting</p>	<p>This is when the young person will meet with their Queen's Badge Advisor and agree an action plan on their activities for the award. This will be arranged by the Captain or leader responsible for Queen's Badge in the company. These vary in format. A Queen's Badge Advisor may come to the company and meet with the young people or the Battalion may run a Queen's Badge conference. The action plan should be signed by the young person, Battalion Queen's Badge Advisor, and captain or company mentor. Should the young person wish to change any part of this plan they should inform their adviser and discuss this with them to ensure they remain within the Queen's Badge regulations.</p> <p>Face-to-face BB activities cannot take place until we are at STAGE 3 of the Brigade framework. If you are unsure of the current stage or the framework around it you can find more details > https://boys-brigade.org.uk/ourframework/ & https://boys-brigade.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Returning-to-Face-to-Face-Meetings-Staged-Approach-1.pdf</p> <p>Virtual meetings (e.g. using Zoom) can be used for Candidates Conferences – one with all candidates to speak through the regulations and then calls with candidate and mentor. All Brigade guidelines in respect of virtual session are followed i.e. two leaders are present within these meeting further advice in respect of virtual meetings can be found here > https://boys-brigade.org.uk/virtualsections/</p> <p>Use of online book would be the preferred option, with sections being shared as they are completed - http://leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/interactivebbqueensbadgebooknew.pdf</p>
<p>Participate in skills-based training (SBT)</p>	<p>This training (which should be undertaken as soon as possible after registration and not less than 6 months prior to completion) should be one of the following and can be provided by The Boys' Brigade or an external agency: (a) Practical skills training to support your voluntary work within or outwith the Company or Church; relevant life-skills training to support your personal development or (b) leadership skills training to enhance your leadership skills.</p>

	<p>Due to COVID-19 it is uncertain when Skills for Queens badge courses will be up and running for the 2020-21 session. Our framework states that until we are at STAGE 4 courses and overnight stays/residentials will not be possible.</p> <p>BB HQ is currently working on some specific guidance around running a virtual Skills for Queens Badge course.</p> <p>6 month rule between completion of SBT and attending Completion Course will be relaxed for at least this session</p>
<p>Take responsibility within the BB or Church</p>	<p>The young person is expected to assume an appropriate degree of responsibility for an aspect from within the BB or a Church activity. At least 30 hours activity is required across the planned period of involvement and could include two or more different experiences in two or more sessions.</p> <p>COVID-19 restrictions may mean it is not physically possible to be present at meetings/activities. We have given some ideas and examples showing options should the young person need to change their action plan (page 3).</p>
<p>Provide voluntary service or support to others outside the BB or Church</p>	<p>As part of the award we want the young person to volunteer or provide support to others in the Community. At least 30 hours activity is required across the planned period of involvement and could include two or more different experiences in two or more BB sessions.</p> <p>COVID-19 restrictions may mean it is not physically possible to be present at meetings/activities. We have given some ideas and examples showing options should the young person need to change their action plan (page 3).</p> <p>6 month rule will be relaxed for at least this session i.e. as long as at least 30 hours completed, there is no restriction over time period</p>
<p>Develop Interests (Skills, Physical, Expedition)</p> <p>**choose 2 from the 3 options</p>	<p>Skills: Learn a new skill, or develop an existing one (3/6 months*).</p> <p>Physical: Take part in a new activity, or develop existing participation (3/6 months*).</p> <p>Expedition: Undergo appropriate training, including at least one supervised practice venture, then undertake a 3 day, 2 night venture with a least 7 hours planned daytime activity per day.</p> <p>*One of these sections must be for 6 months. COVID-19 government restrictions means that doing the agreed activities may no longer be possible. We have given some ideas and examples showing options should the young person need to change their action plan (page 3). Consider greater use of video evidence</p>
<p>Participate in a Completion Residential</p>	<p>The Completion Residential is not a training course. It will provide opportunities for personal shared reflection and evaluation; to share experiences, celebrate achievements, challenge opinions, and explore new opportunities within The Boys' Brigade, Church and wider community.</p> <p>The Brigade will review Completion Residential in January 2021, and will begin planning for a virtual Completion Course, if required.</p>
<p>Record Activity</p>	<p>Each activity must be recorded within the Queen's Badge book.</p> <p>We would encourage the use of the online book (N.B. - this requires to be saved to a hard drive and doesn't save online), which would make sharing with Mentor and Adviser easier - http://leaders.boys-brigade.org.uk/interactivebbqueensbadgebooknew.pdf</p> <p>During COVID-19 where activities may be based more around the home due to the restrictions, it may be useful to keep a video or photo log of your activities.</p>

Ideas and suggestions to continue the Queen's Badge at Home during 2020/21:

RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE BB OR CHURCH

- Prepare BB virtual sessions
- Create online content such as videos of talks, worship, games, quizzes, craft demos for BB, Sunday School or Church etc.
- Lead online BB sessions with a leader using platforms like Zoom.
- Help manage Social Media for your BB or Church. Create videos and graphics to promote BB or Church.
- Help manage the BB or Church Website.
- Assist the BB or Church with admin e.g. creating rotas etc.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE OUTSIDE THE BB OR CHURCH

- Help local voluntary groups with planning and running of virtual activities
- Maintain social media/websites for a local group/charity.
- Dog walking or shopping for those who are in isolation.
- Bake treats and deliver to your neighbours.
- Check in with the elderly/those in isolation in your church or community via Zoom, WhatsApp etc.
- Prepare meal parcels or care packages.
- Help your neighbours by doing jobs such as washing their cars, weeding etc.
- Online charitable activities, like missingmaps.org

DEVELOPING INTERESTS: SKILLS

- Learn an instrument (YouTube/Online Courses, from family member)
- Photography, drawing, painting or film making.
- Model Making.
- Family Tree Project.
- Decorating/painting.
- Learn DIY Skills.
- Vlogging
- Free Money Management Course with Open University
- Baking/Cookery (Take photos of your creations and keep copies of recipes)
- Online First Aid training (firstaidforfree.com)
- Online Sign Language Course (british-sign.co.uk)

DEVELOPING INTERESTS: PHYSICAL

- Couch to 5K (NHS, BBC App).
- Exercise Bike at home.
- Cycling or running*
- YouTube Fitness Video (dance routines, Pilates etc).
- Fitness Challenges (100 press ups etc).
- Circuit Training in your garden.

*For running/cycling etc download an app that records the run or cycle etc for your log and to include in your Queen's Badge Book.

Please Remember: All aspects of the award must be conducted following all relevant Government and BB guidance

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