



# THE BOYS' BRIGADE NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT

# QUEEN'S BADGE AT HOME

## CONTINUING THE AWARD DURING CORONAVIRUS

The Queen's Badge is the highest award that may be gained by a member of The Boys' Brigade. It's a real opportunity; 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 pandemic, we want young people to continue to thrive and take the opportunity to focus during these times to continue with their award.

### A QUICK REMINDER | WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

In order to achieve the Queen's Badge a young person must complete the following activities:

<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 as places do fill up quickly.</p> <p><b>During Covid-19 we are still taking bookings for Skills for Queen's Badge Courses, complete the form on our website and send your payment via Paypal using this link <a href="http://www.paypal.me/bbnewport">http://www.paypal.me/bbnewport</a>. If you have any further queries contact the office 028 92 688444.</b></p>
<p>Attend a Candidate's Meeting</p>	<p>This is when the young person will meet with their Battalion 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/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><b>During Covid-19 the physical meetings are not possible due to the government's restrictions. This may mean that there will be a delay in arranging these meetings. There may also be arrangements to have a virtual session following the Brigade UK guidelines. Arrangements can be made with the Battalion Queen's Badge Advisor to approve work plans so the young person can continue to work on the award during the restrictions.</b></p>
<p>Participate in skills-based training</p>	<p>Commonly known as a Skills for Queen's Badge Course which take place throughout each session. This course consists of an overnight stay at Newport, our Training &amp; Conference Centre. Some Battalions will also offer this course. Training should be undertaken as soon as possible after registration, and not less than 6 months prior to completion. We advise you to book at the time of Queen's Badge Registration for these courses as spaces do fill up quickly.</p> <p><b>If in the event that a course is cancelled due to Covid-19 we will automatically transfer the young person to the next possible course.</b></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 BB or a Church activity. At least 30 hours activity is required across the planned period of involvement with Church or BB and could include two or more different experiences in two or more sessions.</p> <p><b>During Covid-19 government restrictions mean being present physically at meetings isn't possible. We have given some examples below in which the young person can change their action plan to.</b></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><b>During Covid-19 government restrictions mean being present physically at meetings isn't possible. We have given some examples below in which the young person can change their action plan to.</b></p>
<p>Develop Interests (Skills, Physical, Expedition)**</p> <p>**Choose 2 from the 3 options</p>	<p><b>(a) Skills:</b> Learn a new skill, or develop an existing one (3/6 months*).</p> <p><b>(b) Physical:</b> Take part in a new activity, or develop existing participation (3/6 months*).</p> <p><b>(c) Expedition / Exploration</b> Undergo appropriate training, including at least one supervised practice venture, then undertake a 3-day, 2-night venture with at least 7 hours planned daytime activity per day.</p> <p><b>*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 provided some examples below in which the young person can change their Skills and Physical action plan to.</b></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>This course is more commonly known as a Queen's Badge Residential Course which take place throughout each session. They consist of an overnight stay at Newport, our Training &amp; Conference Centre. Some Battalions will also offer this course. We advise you to book at the start of the boys anticipated final session working on their Queen's Badge as places for these courses do fill up quickly. We do not require the QB book when booking a space on the course but by the commencement of the course the book must be fully completed and signed off by the Captain and Queen's Badge Advisor. The book then must be brought to the residential.</p> <p><b>If in the event that a completion residential course is cancelled due to Covid-19 the young person would still complete the award.</b></p>
<p>Record Activity</p>	<p>Each activity must be recorded within the Queen's Badge Book.</p> <p><b>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 (e.g. for cookery keep a record of the recipes and a photo/video of your cookery, for running use a fitness tracker app.</b></p>

**FOR THE LATEST ADVICE GO TO:**

<https://boys-brigade.org.uk/coronavirus-update/>  
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

**CONTACT US AT BB NIHQ**

[nihq@boys-brigade.org.uk](mailto:nihq@boys-brigade.org.uk)  
028 92 688444

**We have this hope as an anchor for  
the soul, firm and secure.**

**Hebrews 6:19**

# THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

## SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIVITIES TO CONTINUE THE QUEEN'S BADGE AT HOME

Queen's Badge Record Book

<http://www.bbni.org.uk/interactivebbqueensbadgeboknew.pdf>

### RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE BB OR CHURCH

- Prepare BB Sessions for a future company night.
- 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 this could be creating rotas etc.

### VOLUNTARY SERVICE OUTSIDE THE BB OR CHURCH

- Maintain social media/websites for a local group/charity.
- Dog walking for those who are in isolation.
- 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.

### DEVELOPING INTERESTS: SKILLS

- Learn an instrument (You Tube/Online Courses).
- Drawing/Creative Art
- Free Money Management Course with Open University.
- Photography.
- Film Making.
- Model Making.
- Family Tree Project.
- Decorating/painting.
- Learn DIY Skills.
- Vlogging.
- Reading (Write a review on each book you read).
- Baking/Cookery (Take photos of your creations and keep copies of recipes)
- Gardening (Vegetable patch, planting etc)
- Online Sign Language Course ([british-sign.co.uk](http://british-sign.co.uk))

### DEVELOPING INTERESTS: PHYSICAL

- Couch to 5K (NHS, BBC App).
- Joe Wicks YouTube Workouts.
- Exercise Bike at home.
- Cycling.
- YouTube Fitness Video (dance routines, Pilates etc).
- Running.
- 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.

### CAN THE YOUNG PERSON CHANGE THEIR ACTION PLAN?

Yes, they can. It may be appropriate to consider changing the activity and encouraging young people to choose something that can be done at home during this period. Leaders should agree how the activity should be logged and evidenced in consultation with parents/carers and the young person.

### REMEMBER!

All aspects of the award must be conducted following the government and The Boys' Brigade UK & Ireland advice at the current time.

