

The impact of The Award programme on young people

The Research

We recently asked Gold Award holders about their Award experiences.

The research was carried out through a time-limited online survey to 324 Gold Award holders. 58% of respondents were female and 41% male. 69% were aged 26-35.

The research revealed the long-lasting impact that doing an Award programme has on young people and their lives. It also demonstrated how the Award develops the important 'soft skills' vital in today's society.

These benefits are immense - and this is on top of the young people currently doing their Award, who contribute volunteering work worth over 35,000 hours to their community in South Australia every year.

Personal development

Confidence:

85% of young people believed the Duke of Edinburgh's Award had improved their confidence.

Leadership:

79% stated they had learned how to work as a team leader and developed greater leadership ability.

Teamworking:

83% stated that taking part in The Award programme taught them how to work with different types of people.

Decision making:

78% of young people said doing their Award had taught them to make decisions for themselves.

"Doing my Award improved my self-esteem and motivation."

"I learned to aim high and believe in myself."

Employability

93% felt that by including their Award on an application form it would help to secure employment or places at preferred colleges.

58% believed that having achieved an Award had helped them in their job/career - the most helpful section was Volunteering.

64% believed that having an Award helped them gain their most recent/current job.

"My Award led me to my degree choice and current career."

Other Benefits

83% felt they had a greater understanding of the importance of the environment as a result of doing their Award.

87% still participate in the activities they took up for their Award programme. 61% stated that they still volunteer with their community after achieving their Award. 25% were now volunteering as The Award Leaders.

67% claimed that they had used The Duke of Edinburgh's Award as a benchmark.

Other feedback from young people on their experience

"I discovered my emotional and physical limits are much higher than I thought. I learned to stay calm regardless of the situation and that very rarely is anything as bad as it first seems."

"I learned that however hard something is you can still finish it."

