



working to help
protect our
local environment

Respect. Protect. Enjoy.

DON'T LEAVE LITTER BEHIND

We all have a responsibility to protect the countryside, for other users and for future generations.

Dropping litter can quickly spoil a lovely view and can be harmful to wildlife.

It's easy to help keep the countryside tidy for everyone. If you can't find a bin, take your litter home with you and dispose of it there.

To find out more about how you can protect the countryside, visit:
[DofE.org/country](https://www.dofe.org/country)





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STICK TO PATHWAYS

We are lucky to have free access to routes across farmland throughout the UK. Straying from official paths in these areas can damage the crops that farmers depend on for their living.

Damaging crops costs farmers money and threatens the access to the countryside that many people enjoy.

Respect the farmers who allow you onto their land – and stick to the paths provided.

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RESPECT LIVESTOCK

Large farm animals can be daunting, but they are likely to be just as scared of you as you are of them! Keep to paths and pass animals calmly and quietly to avoid disturbing them – and please do not feed them!

You can also help to keep valuable animals, such as sheep and cows, safe by remembering to leave gates as you find them; leaving a gate open if it was shut could let animals stray onto roads.

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CLOSING GATES

The DofE Expedition section is reliant on the goodwill of rural communities and landowners. It is important to show consideration and courtesy for farmers and landowners and to respect the Countryside Code.

When passing over farmland, please ensure all gates are left as they are found. As a group, please communicate to the last person in the group whether the gate was found open or closed. Ideally the person who opens the gate should wait for the whole group to pass through and shut it behind them. This way it not only ensures animals do not stray, but it keeps you together as a group.

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