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Youth Adventure Trust
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Current Status: Application Received

1 Project title? (Max. 8 words Eg. Tinkleton Village Youth Transport Project) *required field

Young People Fulfilling Their Potential through Outdoor Activities

2. Project summary: (100 words) *required field

The Youth Adventure Trust takes disadvantaged young people aged 11-14 from Wiltshire and Swindon on a Youth Adventure Programme over 3 school years and helps them to learn and achieve through a combination of 3 outdoor residential adventure camps 4 day activities and 3 Pathway Days. The 2nd year of the programme when the young people are 13 years old involves them attending a 3 day residential Coastal Camp in May and 3 Activity Days in the winter months. We would like funding for the cost of this year's activities for the 8 young people we work with from Westbury Matravers School at a cost of 378 per child.

3. Amount of funding required: *required field

- £0 - £1000
- £1001 - £5000
- Over £5000 (Please note - our grants will not normally exceed £5,000)

4. Which Area Board are you applying to? Not sure? -[check on a map](#) *required field

Westbury

5. What is the Post Code of where the project is taking place? (If the application is for something that will move around to different locations please insert the post code for where it will be based for the majority of the time.) *required field

BA13 4EH

6. Please tell us which theme(s) your project supports: *required field

- Informal education
- Youth work/development
- Sport/Leisure
- Residential
- Arts/Culture
- Employment or training
- 1:1/group work
- Community Project
- Community Safety
- Volunteering
- Environment
- Health
- Other

If other (please specify

7. About your project

**Please tell us about your project (a strong application will address all of the following):
*required field**

- How does your project support local needs and priorities?
- How have young people been involved in your project so far?
- How many young people do you expect to benefit?
- How will your project be accessible and affordable?
- How will you encourage volunteering and community involvement?
- How will you ensure your project is accessible to everyone (Disabled, low incomes, vulnerable, etc.)
- How will ensure your project is inclusive?
- How will you work with other community partners?

What we do and Why. The Youth Adventure Trust enables 240 disadvantaged young people aged 11-14 from Wiltshire and Swindon to benefit from a life-changing 3 years Youth Adventure Programme. Many are struggling at school aren't able to fit in have no positive role model no aspirations or chaotic and unstable home lives. They could be young carers in foster care or on the brink of exclusion from school. Their circumstances make it all too easy for them to make poor choices that will affect the rest of their lives. We help these children escape this cycle of disadvantage and inspire them to reach their full potential by taking them a key transitional stage of their educational and social development helping them learn and achieve through a combination of outdoor adventure camps and day activities. The programme is designed to build their self-confidence and self-esteem and emphasises the importance of teamwork communication social skills and resilience. These important life skills are the building blocks that help them develop aspiration and grow into individuals who are able to fulfil their potential and make a positive contribution to their local communities and society as a whole. The Activity Days are held in the winter months and crucially provide continuity throughout these months when the camps aren't running. The children catch up with others in their group and it enables the staff and volunteer mentors to re-engage with the children and monitor their development. They continue to complete their Personal Records of Achievement which they fill in throughout the 3 year programme. There are 3 Activity Days for each child we hold 12 in total and the one held in Westbury for example is a Woodland day held at Brokerswood Country Park. They are provided with transport to the venue and have a fully trained activity provider in charge of the day's activity. The Coastal Camp is held on Brownsea Island and is a very demanding camp. We take 2 groups of 40 children on 2 separate camps arranging transport from Wiltshire and providing basic camping on the Island and specialist instruction from qualified instructors from the Harbour Activity Centre. These instructors work alongside our fully trained volunteer mentors and key programme staff. On the Camp the young people learn to windsurf sail kayak and take part in a raft building team challenge. The Coastal Camp is a particularly special experience for the young people who sail to the island on a small ferry a new and exciting experience for most of them. The sailing and windsurfing are really big activities for them very intense and challenging and they promote great responsibility independence and resilience. For example after some initial instruction the young people are sailing the boats themselves in teams of two. Sailing is an expensive part of our programme but it is the biggest step the young people take for gaining confidence and independence. Local Needs Addressed. Significant areas of Wiltshire are in the 5 most deprived LSOAs Lower Super Output Areas according to the Wiltshire Council Indices of Deprivation 2015. Trowbridge Adcroft and Trowbridge Park suffer particular deprivation along with Salisbury Bemerton Devizes North Amesbury East and Chippenham Hardens. The deprivation in urban areas is clearly visible especially in the market towns and this contrast sharply with the hidden deprivation in the county's rural areas where there are high levels of poverty and very limited access to services such as leisure and transport. Disadvantaged young people are at particular risk of becoming NEETS and the employability of young people remains both a local and national priority. In Wiltshire the NEET figure is 4 with 4.9 destinations unknown. The two wards in Trowbridge are known to be areas of highest long term unemployment. Being NEET is associated with negative outcomes later in life including unemployment reduced earnings poor health and depression. These outcomes have a cost for both the individual and the economy. The Princes Trust Macquarie Youth Index shows NEETS are significantly less happy across all areas of their lives with increased mental health problems due to unemployment. The Index reports that 37 of NEETS lack a sense of identity 34 feel isolated all or most of the time and more than 1 in 4 claims they do not have a positive role

model. The Youth Adventure Programme is ideally placed to help deter our young people from becoming NEETS. Long term and early intervention are key to our success. Not only do we increase the young people's confidence and self-esteem and improve their communication and leadership skills but we offer them alternative positive pathways working with positive role models and mentors encouraging resilience and raising their aspiration. In line with substantial bodies of evidence and consultation we offer our young people 3 residential camps alongside multi-day activities and pathway days over a 3 school year period at no cost to them and their families thus delivering a sustained long term impact and early intervention programme. In May 2014 Wiltshire Council cuts its number of youth workers from 144 to 25. This year these are to be cut to just 7 workers and will no longer work directly with young people. Our work and proposed Project Mentor will be one way of plugging this gap in provision. Other local youth provision includes Youth Action Wiltshire day activities for 11-16 yr olds Seeds 4 Success Phoenix Youth Club weekly clubs for disabled young people Youth Service North training for NEETS aged 13-19 and organisations like Scouts which cost 100 per year and extra money for trips and activities. We are the only organisation in the county that offers a FREE programme of support for such a sustained period of time at such a crucial transitional period in Childrens lives. How are the young people involved we regularly review our provision and that of others to meet the changing local picture and we regularly collate feedback from the young people and their families to allow us to make improvements to the service we offer the young people. We meet each young person before during and after each year of the programme to set targets review progress and obtain feedback. In 2011 we undertook a major review consulting with the young people as well as with parent's referral agencies and volunteers. This consultation took the form of questionnaires focus groups and interviews and led to systematic change with the young people helping to design our new 3 year Youth Adventure Programme. This led to the programme being extended from 12 months to 25 months and the introduction of Pathway Days at age 14. As the first cohort of young people to complete the 3 year programme finished in 2014 we gathered valuable feedback from them on the success of the new 3 year programme and suggestions to improve the service such as the Progression Mentor who would keep in touch with them as they move on to other youth services at 14. The programme has been a valuable and extremely positive experience for my son. He has grown in confidence maturity and it has encouraged the emergence of a great team leader. As a result his understanding and patience has vastly improved towards others and himself and he is more able to accept and enjoy his achievements. He is much focused now and strives forwards doing his best in all he does

ParentInclusion. We take children from schools in Wiltshire where there is the highest need for our service. The staff and social workers recommend the children that will benefit the most. We take 8 children from each school every year 80 children per year join the programme. We don't take anymore than this because we want those children to be able to come to us with a clean slate where they are not judged by other children from their school who may know something of their history and problems. The children are mixed up within these groups for the same reason. The Wiltshire Community Foundations 2014 report Wiltshire Uncovered noted in their research that the problems within the county needed Prevention and early intervention the raising of aspirations and narrowing gaps and strongly recommends that Flexible local community responses are the best way of meeting those needs in the communities. How many do we reach We help 240 young people per year and for this programme we are asking for your help to fund the 8 out of the 24 children from Westbury that we help. 8 in each of the 3 years. It costs 378 per child for the 2nd year of the programme. Total cost - 30250. 3025080 young people 378. 378 x 8 Westbury young people 3024. The Blagrove Trusts

2015 reports systematic reviews found that residential and multi-day activities had a stronger effect than shorter ones and concludes that While this is perhaps unsurprising it does offer a challenge for funders since it obviously forces a trade off with the number of participants. In our 2011 consultation we made a conscious decision to move away from a tokenistic programme there for the sake of numbers to a programme with greater long term intervention offering greater value for money and A CHANGE THAT LASTS A LIFETIME. Our programme leads to social capital at the end with less financial intervention and fiscal cost to the state through costs incurred via the police criminal justice system jobseekers benefits and tax implications. So although we cannot help ALL the disadvantaged young people in Wiltshire we are reaching a substantial proportion and providing them with the opportunities and skills they need to become engaged within their communities and society through a more intensive integrated experience as recommended by many highly respected research bodies. Our programme resonates with the Governments priorities to empower communities through the Big Society. Referral agencies tell us that we deliver life-changing results for many children who have not reached their full potential with other forms of intervention and support. Volunteers. We have 180 fully trained volunteers from a range of backgrounds. They are the backbone of our organisation and are the positive role models our young people look up to and learn from. All volunteers undertake the challenging activities alongside the young people sharing experiences such as caving and canoeing. This creates a strong bond and trust. It is the positive support and encouragement of the volunteers that facilitate the changes in our young people. They provide the positive mentorship these disadvantaged young people need. The young people have very positive things to say about the volunteers when asked what was the best thing about the programme the volunteers have been one of the best things. They helped me Making new friends and spending time with the adult leaders having a good time and having a laugh with the leaders Meeting new friends and having the leaders as adult friends. Partnerships we work with a representative from Wiltshire Young Peoples Support Services on an advisory basis and we work with local youth organisations such as Duke of Edinburgh Scheme Cadets Scouts Princes trust etc on our Pathway Days which the young people attend in their final year. We are also in preliminary talks with Youth Action Wiltshire on ways in which we can work together in the future. The Youth Adventure Trust is special because it provides opportunities that are otherwise unavailable. It helps give a boost to those that need an extra hand in life Carer

8. Safeguarding

Please tell us about how you will protect and safeguard young people in your project (You must address all of the following): *required field

- Please evidence your commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
- How do you make sure staff and volunteers understand their safeguarding responsibilities?
- Are staff and volunteers Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked and do you hold a central record of this as well as details of staff references.
- Who in your organisation is ultimately responsible for safeguarding?
- How do you ensure that young people are kept safe online when accessing your services?

Child Protection: We have child protection policy available on request. The volunteers receive Child Protection training on their training weekend and they are all sent an updated safeguarding policy annually. The staffs receive Child Protection training every 2 years and are updated annually. The policies and training are provided by Safe Network safenetwork.org.uk and they keep us up to date with any changes which are then disseminated to staff and volunteers. Safeguarding the Young People: We safeguard them at all times in a variety of ways. For example, they have 2 adults with them at all times there is no solo working at all. Adults are not allowed in tents on camp unaccompanied. Adults do not go in the toilets or showers on camp when the young people are in them. The children apply their own sun cream etc. If we had a child protection concern our Operations Director would refer it to Social Services. Disclosure and Barring Service: Staff and Volunteers DBS checks are repeated every 3 years. We hold a central record. Our Director of Operations Tessa Woodrow is ultimately responsible for all safeguarding. Online Policies Web based technology risks. The Youth Adventure Trust has no Facebook page and we have no forum for the children to communicate online. Staff and volunteers are not permitted to friend the young people on Facebook or other social media and vice versa. No smart phones tablets etc are permitted on camp activity days or pathway days.

9. Monitoring your project

How will you know if your project has been successful? *required field

We meet each young person parent's carers and schools before during and after each year of the Programme to set targets review progress and obtain feedback. Each young person is given a Personal Record of Achievement to complete throughout the programme where they record their personal goals aspirations and achievements. Our fully trained volunteers and staff work with small groups on camps and activity days maintaining a daily record of progress. All the data is assimilated by our Operations Team to measure impact and to help the children plan the next stages of their journey. Since autumn 2015 we have been using NPCs Well-Being Measurement Tool which measures the young people's perspective on various aspects of their lives tracking change in well-being over their time on the programme. The tool allows us to see our results in a national context as it analyses our results within the national baseline. Because we are the only organisation in the area undertaking such an innovative and long term programme it is of value to other youth organisations to learn from our work. The Wiltshire Community Foundation have committed to helping us disseminate any of our key data allowing local groups to learn from us. We also

disseminate our findings to youth providers we work with such as the D of E Scouts Cadets etc. Who will benefit the main group of beneficiaries are the young people with additional benefits also experienced by their family's communities and schools. 1. 240 young people per year benefit with increases in self-confidence and self-esteem improved behaviour at home and school improved engagement at school and increased resilience and aspiration. Specifically 8 Westbury children will benefit from the Activity Days and Coastal Camp project in 2016 and 17. 2. Families benefit with improved communication and better behaviour at home improving family cohesion.3. Schools benefit with improved school work and behaviour. Teachers tell us that the improved behaviour of one participant impacts on their class at school resulting in the behaviour of that whole class improving. It turned Daniel around from a boy at risk of permanent exclusion to a boy thoroughly engaged in his schoolwork who is now a pleasure to teach. Headmaster of Kingsdown School Warminster 4. The lives and environments of local communities benefit as the young people become more engaged and responsible make better friendship choices and become less likely to become involved in petty crime and anti-social behaviour.5. The programme benefits our volunteers who derive satisfaction and personal growth from their time as mentors to the young people.

10. Finance: *required field, if you are a new organisation and don't have accounts leave blank and tick box below

10a. Your Organisation's Finance:

Your latest accounts:

Month Year

Total Income:

£ Please enter in money format **with pence** but no pound sign or comma or p. Eg 15000.00

Total Expenditure:

£

Surplus/Deficit for the year:

£

Free reserves currently held:

£

Why can't you fund this project from your reserves:

The Board of Trustees have agreed that the required level of reserves should equate to the equivalent of 4 months operational expenditure. Considerable progress has been made in this regard and we expect to reach our target by the end of 2016. This is in order to strengthen our financial security and ensure we can continue to provide our valuable service to the young people of Wiltshire.

We are a newly formed group and do not yet have published accounts:

10b. Project Finance:

Part One: *required

Total Project cost £ Please enter in money format **with pence** but no pound sign or comma or p. Eg 15000.00
[help](#)

Total required from £
Area Board

Part Two: Please itemise your project expenditure and project income *required

Quick tips:

1. List **ALL** expenditure in a general format eg. Materials 10.00, Tools 5.00
2. List **ALL** income **except the amount required from the Area Board** eg. Donations 20.00 [help](#)
3. Please enter in money format **with pence** but no pound sign or comma or p. Eg 15000.00
4. If your organisation reclaims VAT you should exclude VAT from the expenditure
5. Please ensure you **TOTAL** both columns correctly.
 - Expenditure column should equal Total project cost in Part One.
 - Income column should equal Total project cost **minus** Total required from the Area Board.
6. Here is an example layout, including how to display in kind contributions [help](#)

Breakdown of expenditure and income submitted on separate sheet for clearer reading

11. Have you or do you intend to apply for a grant for this project from another area board within this financial year? *required field

- Yes
- No

12. Tick all the Area Boards to which you are intending to apply, including this one (You can apply to a maximum of 3 Area Boards for the same project in a financial year) *required field, if Yes to Q11.

- Amesbury
- Bradford on Avon
- Calne
- Chippenham
- Corsham
- Devizes
- Malmesbury
- Marlborough
- Melksham
- Pewsey
- Salisbury
- Southern Wiltshire
- South West Wiltshire
- Tidworth
- Trowbridge
- Warminster
- Westbury
- Royal Wootton Bassett & Cricklade

13. DECLARATION

Supporting information - Please confirm that the following documents will be available to inspect upon request (You DO NOT need to send these documents to us):

Do you have the following (please tick any that apply):

- Child Protection Policy
- Safeguarding Children
- Procedure for dealing with an allegation against a member of staff or a volunteer
- Complaints Procedure

- Public Liability Insurance
- Health & Safety
- Whistle blowing policy
- Internet use policy
- Constitution
- Annual Accounts
- Business/Project Plan (For projects where total project cost is over £50,000)

Legal declaration *required field

- The information on this form is correct, that any award received will be spent on the activities specified.