

THE SIR FRANCIS CHICHESTER TRUST

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Dear Colleague,

The Sir Francis Chichester Trust Bursaries for 2010

The Sir Francis Chichester Trust is once again offering free places on Outward Bound courses (predominantly three week courses, but some for one week) to young people who live in Devon and who are aged 16-24 (at the time of the course, which will be over the summer holidays). The courses are held at the Outward Bound centres in the Lake District, Wales and Scotland and young people who are offered a place are able to choose the venue and dates to suit, subject to availability.

I would be grateful if you would bring the opportunities that the Trust offers to the attention of young people with whom you are in contact, together with informing colleagues who might know of suitable candidates. It really is a wonderful opportunity for young people who wouldn't normally have a chance to undertake anything of this nature. The courses are primarily personal development courses, based around outdoor activities and with a particular emphasis on teamwork. The benefits to young people of undertaking these courses shows through increased self-confidence and the development of life skills that remain with them throughout their lives. It is important to emphasise however that the courses are hard work and require real commitment from the young people.

Candidates are normally selected from those who have had very few opportunities for challenges of this nature in the past and the Trustees will look for some indication that the young people concerned will really benefit and enjoy the experience and learn from it! Outward Bound cannot however take young people who will at the time of their course be subject to any youth offending order.

If an applicant is successful he or she will be responsible for their own transport arrangements to the centre, but the entire course fee is met by the Trust (though if transport costs are a problem it will be looked at sympathetically and help may be forthcoming).

The closing date for the main allocation of places for courses this summer is **Tuesday 30th March** with interviews for those shortlisted being held **22nd and 23rd April**. An application form, which may be photocopied, is enclosed – or it can be downloaded from the Trust website. If you have any queries or would like any additional information please don't hesitate to give me a ring. I do have copies of the Outward Bound brochure and also a short DVD that gives an idea of what the courses involve that you might like to borrow to show young people. Alternatively have a look at the Sir Francis Chichester Trust website which links through to the Outward Bound one and together provide quite a lot of information about applying and the courses themselves.

Yours sincerely,

Anthea Parkyn (Mrs) Trust Administrator

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