

UK YOUTH



# Investing in the future of young people

Developing essential life skills and making memories  
that last a lifetime.

“The trip was incredible. The staff at Avon Tyrrell were great at teaching and mentoring the young people. We noticed a clear change in the young people from day one to day three – development in their confidence, resilience, communication skills, working as a team and having lots of fun!”

– Youth Worker at The Handy Trust

**UK Youth is a leading charity with a vision that all young people are equipped to thrive and empowered to contribute at every stage of their lives.**

**Our flagship outdoor learning centre, Avon Tyrrell, is dedicated to the continuous development of young people.**

**Through the delivery of high quality accessible outdoor learning, we support young people to experience, learn and develop.**

# “Today, I invite you to play a vital role in building a thriving future for young people.”



**Ndidi Okezie**  
Chief Executive  
Officer, UK Youth

**The CEO of UK Youth, Ndidi Okezie, invites you to join our Avon Tyrrell Capital Appeal. Discover our exciting plans for our outdoor learning centre in the heart of the New Forest, explore your role in its transformation, and see how your support could change lives.**

As I write this, many young people face tremendous challenges to their physical and mental health. Almost half of young people are financially precarious – while a third feel they will never achieve their career aspirations.

Due to a lack of sustainable investment in youth work and the pressures of an unrelenting cost of living crisis, local youth provision is fighting to survive.

At this critical moment, we believe outdoor learning plays a vital role in supporting the social and

educational development and well-being of young people.

That’s why we are seeking £6.4 million to invest in a state-of-the-art Experiential Learning and Sports Centre at Avon Tyrrell and deliver a significant restoration of the manor house built in 1891.

Embracing sustainable eco-technology, our new and refurbished facilities will ensure Avon Tyrrell’s legacy for generations of young people to come.

As you read this brochure, I’d love you to imagine the difference you can make as, brick by brick, we lay the foundations for a thriving future.

Come and experience the magic of Avon Tyrrell yourself. Roam the grounds and see the personal mark you can make on the future of our young people in the UK.

**£6.4**  
million

is the investment we urgently need to **secure Avon Tyrrell for future generations.**

**8 in 10**  
children

More than 8 in 10 children and young people agree that **being in nature makes them very happy.**

**97%**  
of teachers

say that **outdoor play is critical for children** to reach their full potential.





## Now is the time

Did you know that Avon Tyrrell House is the last ever built calendar house? It has 365 windows (days), 7 outer doors (days of the week), 52 rooms (weeks), 12 chimneys (months) and 4 wings (seasons).

Certainly, now is the time to repair this remarkable listed building, Grade 1 – and fill every room with fun, laughter, courage, curiosity, excellence and achievement.

# You can be a part of our history by restoring Avon Tyrrell house

**Our history began with a moment of courage and a great love of sport. What followed was a firm wish to help young people benefit from outdoor activities.**

**Now you can be part of our story by helping us repair and renew our manor house for the young people, and New Forest community.**

In 1881, Lord Manners made a bet that he would be able to buy, train and ride the winner of the upcoming 1882 Grand National. It was a bold move. By a stroke of luck, conditions on the day were among the worst in race history, causing many of the runners to drop back – leaving Manners and his horse, Seaman, neck and neck with the favourite at the final fence...

Manners nudged into the lead at the winning post, securing himself £28,000, which is the equivalent of £3.6 million today. When he married in 1885, he built Avon Tyrrell with his winnings.

The house was used as a convalescent home for injured New Zealand soldiers in World War I. Avon Tyrrell also played a significant role during World War II, as a training and accommodation facility for military personnel. The site was utilized by the British Army and the US Army for various training exercises and as a base for soldiers preparing for combat. The centre's vast natural surroundings and secluded location provided an ideal setting for military training and preparation.



## **Our royal connection**

Avon Tyrrell was officially opened by the then Princess Elizabeth in July 1949. Today, UK Youth's Patron is HRH The Princess Royal.

In 1946 the manor house and grounds were put into a Trust by the Manners family for use by the 'Youth of the Nation' and UK Youth became custodians of the site.

Since then, we haven't stopped providing outdoor learning opportunities for young people – giving them somewhere to stay, to explore, to roam and feel free. But after decades of hosting all these enriching experiences, our manor house needs significant repair and modernisation to meet young people's needs in the future and support a commitment to become environmentally sustainable in the House operations.



**£3.2**  
**million**

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Our target to renovate the Manor House and keep it **open all year round** – for the next 100 years and beyond.

**90%**  
**of young people**

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who took part in our programmes said their **confidence had improved**, as well as their resilience, responsibility, motivation, self-awareness, communication and receptiveness.

**30,000**  
**Visitors**

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The number of visitors we welcome to Avon Tyrrell each year. With the proposed work we will be able to sustain the visitor numbers and **significantly improve our facilities.**



**Do you remember exploring the great outdoors when you were young?**

**Perhaps you have happy memories of the summer holidays, rambling through the countryside, or playing games in the local park?**

Today, thousands of young people from disadvantaged backgrounds would benefit from the same activities. Yet less than 25% of children use their local 'patch of nature', compared to when half of all adults were children. You can help them discover the great outdoors, make new friends and thrive. Thanks to you, they can make memories that – like yours – last a lifetime.





You can help us build our new

# Experiential Learning and Sports Centre

**By supporting our Avon Tyrrell Capital Appeal, you can increase outdoor learning in the New Forest – and help young people develop life skills and gain new knowledge through experience. As a national leader in outdoor learning, our distinctive ‘experience, learn and develop’ model runs through everything we do.**

## **Experience**

Help young people get out-and-about in nature. Get active. Try new activities and new sports. Meet people from all different backgrounds. Build trust between team members. Nurture social skills, while becoming independent. Get the heart pumping. Breathe in fresh air. Improve physical and mental health. Have fun. Feel happy and excited.

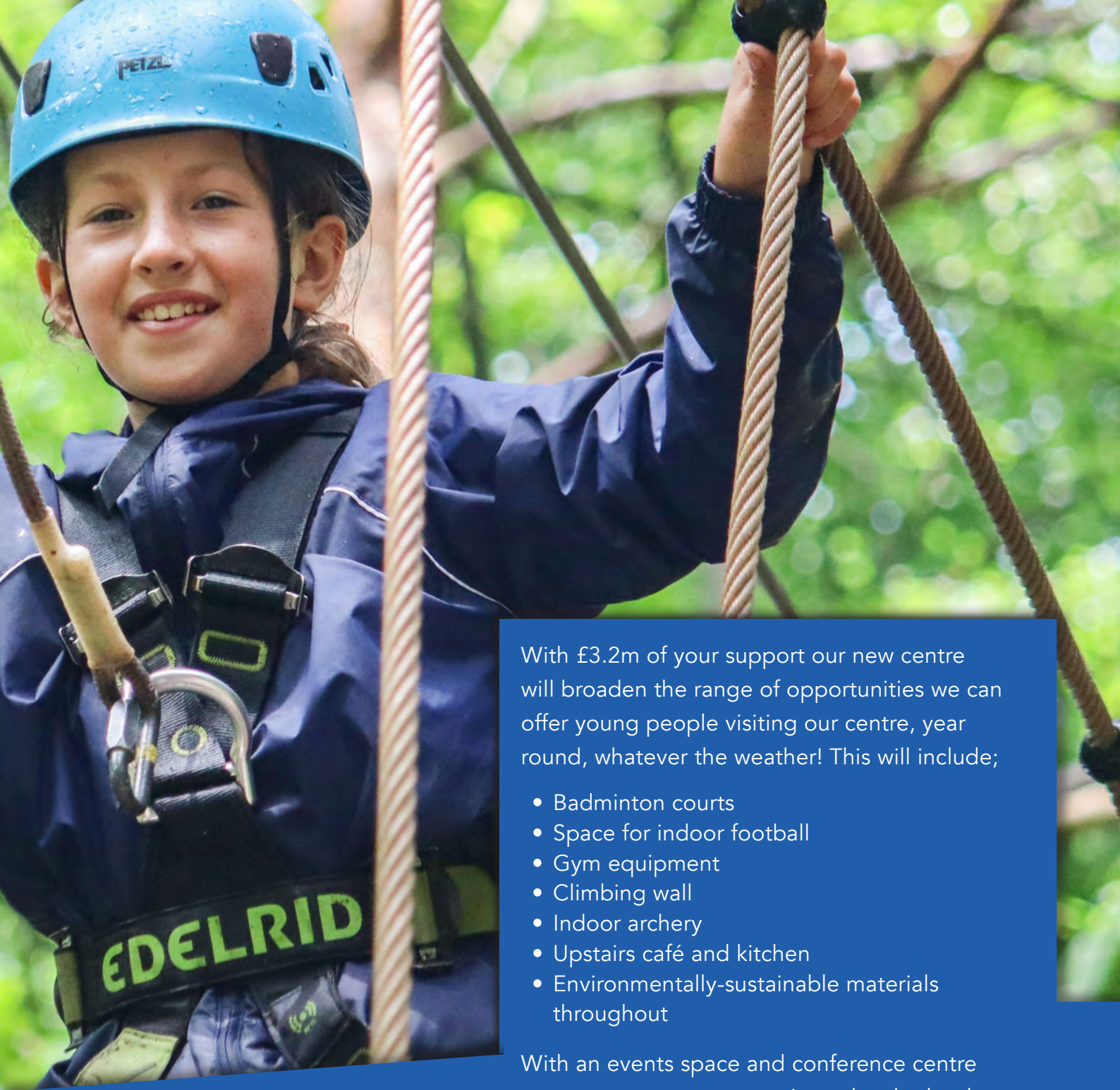
## **Learn**

Enable young people to learn about themselves, while finding out about others. Take on challenges. Celebrate achievement with every high five, handshake, and cheer. Fall in love with nature, explore ancient woodland, walk winding paths, gaze up at blue skies by day and stars by night. Realise how vital the environment is for their own happiness – as well as humanity’s.

## **Develop**

Support young people as they develop essential life skills and physical literacy through outdoor learning. As they grow in character through every moment of courage. Strive for their personal best, while knowing it’s okay to fail. Build resilience. Dust themselves off and start all over again. Discover how to be a good team player. Evaluate real versus perceived risk and manage emotions.





With £3.2m of your support our new centre will broaden the range of opportunities we can offer young people visiting our centre, year round, whatever the weather! This will include;

- Badminton courts
- Space for indoor football
- Gym equipment
- Climbing wall
- Indoor archery
- Upstairs café and kitchen
- Environmentally-sustainable materials throughout

With an events space and conference centre too, we can open up our site to local schools, faith groups, youth clubs and businesses, benefiting the whole New Forest community.

**“My whole outlook on life is different – I feel a lot more positive about myself and about my potential. I’m really excited about what lies ahead of me.”**

**– Young person supported by UK Youth**

**“This amazing experience will live in the mind of the young people for years to come. As they all live in supported accommodation they often struggle to look after themselves and do not have sufficient food.**

**They really appreciated three meals a day and clean bedding to sleep in. These three days away provided them with some respite from the difficulties they encounter in everyday life.”**

**– Youth Worker from Think2Speak,  
LGBTQ Youth Inclusion Specialists.**

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# With this investment in Avon Tyrrell, we will be able to offer more enriching bursary visits.

Our bursary scheme aims to make the centre's offerings accessible to a wider range of young people, families and youth groups, including those facing financial constraints or with specific access needs. Avon Tyrrell bursaries ensure more young people can benefit from the transformative opportunities on offer.

They exemplify the centre's commitment to inclusivity and its dedication to empowering young people from diverse backgrounds, enabling them to connect with nature, learn essential life skills, and foster personal growth in a supportive and nurturing environment.



**“I’m writing to show our appreciation to all the support that went in to organising our visit. The instructors were warm, friendly and very accommodating, as were the guys ‘on call’ that provided us with a wheel chair to aid a child with exploring the beautiful grounds. I would also like to say a special thanks for the generosity with awarding us the £1000 bursary.**

**It was the first time we’ve managed to get the whole group together and seeing them all happy and fully involved was a real pleasure. Thank you.”  
- Pace.**

# You can help build young people's careers

**Investing in Avon Tyrrell also means we can better support more young people through our apprenticeship scheme - a two-year journey towards a rewarding career in the outdoor industry.**

Over 24-challenging months, our eager apprentices learn how to be Outdoor Learning Instructors, helping to deliver outdoor learning throughout the year – from climbing to abseiling, bushcraft to mountain biking, canoeing to kayaking. Whilst bringing lived experiences to inspire the next generation.

While training, our apprentices engage with a wide variety of participants, gaining crucial experience working on school residential stays, development programmes, and family events – as well as supporting people with disabilities and additional needs.

It's a role that involves a host of responsibilities, including checking equipment for safety, managing groups of young people, and quickly passing on skills. It's fun, active and multi-faceted. It builds empathy, independence, courage and curiosity.

Our apprentices often go on to start a rewarding career in the outdoor industry, or transfer their skills to other vocations. Why not talk to us to learn how you can help more apprentices gain skills, qualifications and confidence that will benefit them for the rest of their lives?

**“The apprenticeship scheme at Avon Tyrrell has all the support and guidance you need to succeed. It was more than just a new industry of work – it was a huge life learning curve!”**

**— Jake, Outdoor Learning Senior Instructor, previous apprentice.**



# The wider value of your support

**9**  
**in 10**

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youth group leaders report **greater confidence, self-reliance, independence, and happiness** among the young people they support through **outdoor learning experiences.**

**5.7**  
**billion**

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Annually, **youth work contributes £5.7 billion to the wider UK** economy through jobs, volunteering and local suppliers. With further investment, the benefits would be even higher.

**x6**  
**benefit**

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For every £1 spent on youth work, the UK sees a **benefit to the economy of up to £6.**

**“I’m so proud to be an ally for UK Youth’s Avon Tyrrell Capital Appeal. I see this appeal as an essential investment in the incredible potential of our young people, who are the future of the UK.**

**I firmly believe in preserving this historic site that has been a vessel of enriching experiences for countless young people. Avon Tyrrell’s legacy of empowering the next generation through outdoor learning is invaluable. By maintaining and restoring this cherished site, we can ensure that its transformative impact continues to shape and enrich the lives of youth, nurturing their potential and building a brighter future for generations to come.”**

**If you share my passion for preservation and supporting young people to thrive, then I encourage you to join me, get involved and support.”**

**- Dan Snow, UK Youth Capital Appeal Ambassador**



# Tell us how you'd like to make a difference

Today, we invite you to support our Avon Tyrrell Capital Appeal and help younger people in the New Forest and across the UK build a better life for themselves. We'd love you to show you our house and magnificent 65-acre heritage site – while sharing our plans for the future.

## **Please email:**

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