



67 Ardwick Green North, Ardwick Manchester, M12 6FX Tel: 0161 275 9885 Email: Info@mchinesecentre.org.uk
Web: www.youthambassador.org.uk Charity No: 1114121

Manchester Youth Ambassador Project 2010

Mission Statement

“Youth Ambassadors are passionate about the world we share and our volunteers make a positive difference to the communities in which they live. They will strive to help co-ordinate wider communities to work together. We believe our young volunteers influence our world and people around us through hard work and engaging in active learning.

As the global community we live in becomes increasingly interdependent and subject to change, today's young people will face numerous challenges on the journey to becoming tomorrow's leaders. We believe this experience can help young people of both nationalities embrace those challenges and discover new opportunities that will help them dream and achieve more than they ever thought possible.”

Introduction

The Manchester Youth Ambassador Project offers young people within the Greater Manchester area the chance to travel to China, offering the tremendous opportunity to develop skills and to actively contribute within an extremely fascinating and diverse culture. Our project has been in operation since 2007, when a group of Youth Ambassadors travelled to both Beijing and Wuhan to contribute to overseas development as well as immersing themselves in local culture and China's heritage. They participated in discussions regarding an extensive range of subjects such as health care, environmental issues, rural development, history, poverty, governance, education and infrastructure development.

This year's project aims to be our most ambitious yet. We intend to organise a total of four groups of ambassadors to travel to China in order to cover even more issues than ever before...

This Year's Group Outlines/Objectives

With this year's project being our most ambitious brings with it even greater opportunities. We have structured four groups in order to cater for any specific desires our Ambassadors may have, be it to be actively involved in aiding underdeveloped areas of China or simply to visit and experience one of the planets most amazing countries. Below is a brief outline of each group's objectives, what we expect to achieve as a group and what we expect each Ambassador to take from their experience.

Group 1: International Poverty Project

By taking part in our International Poverty Project, each Ambassador will have the chance to actively work with people living in some of China's most underdeveloped regions (**Sichuan province, area of the earthquake disaster**). This group aims to improve those local people's knowledge of health and sanitation as well as enhancing their level of education. Using funds raised in conjunction with the Manchester Chinese Centre, Ambassadors will be able to renovate local schools making sure that their impact is felt long into the future.

Project Focuses

The Ambassadors will work closely with the Manchester Chinese Centre to raise funds to ensure The International Poverty Project will focus on providing local people with knowledge of how to access the internet as well as teaching them English skills.

Project Costs

The estimated cost of The International Poverty Project is £1295.00. However sponsorship may be available (see 'For Sponsorship' information below). It is possible to reduce the cost to £550.00; costs such as laundry, visa and travel insurance are not included. The administration fee for project arrangement is £100.00

Group 2: Work Exchange Project

By taking part in our Work Exchange project, each Ambassador will be teaching English within organised Summer workshops. This group will offer the Ambassadors an excellent opportunity to pass on their own knowledge of a subject area as well as networking with other people of a similar age, building bridges for the future.

Project Focuses

The Ambassador's main focus will be to ensure they deliver an excellent

standard of teaching whilst stationed in camp, as well as conducting themselves in a manner appropriate to that of a British representative.

Project Costs

The estimated cost of **Work Exchange Project** is £1295.00. However sponsorship may be available (see 'For Sponsorship' information below). It is possible to reduce the cost to £550.00; costs such as laundry, visa and travel insurance are not included. The administration fee for project arrangement is £100.00

Group 3: 14 Day Tourism and Commerce Trip

Our third group will offer those eligible Ambassadors the chance to experience China from a unique perspective, by visiting some of Beijing and Shanghai's many factories and business organisations. The Ambassadors will also have the opportunity to visit many of China's most famous culturally significant landmarks. (Please see information separate sheets)

Project Focuses

The main focus of the Tourism and Commerce Group is to provide those ambassadors taking part with a unique viewpoint of China. It will allow those involved to see a side of China very few have seen before.

Project Costs

The estimated cost of this group is £1295.00. No sponsorship allowed. Please note this quotation includes accommodation within a 3 star hotel, all meals and entrance into all activities, costs such as laundry, visa and travel insurance are not included.

Group 4: Student Exchange Programme

Group 4 will allow those eligible ambassadors to visit China and stay with a Chinese family as well as vice versa. This project will allow each ambassador to build bridges between Britain and China as well as seeing the country from a uniquely intimate point of view.

Project Focuses

The main aim of the Student Exchange Programme is to ensure each ambassador truly understands the cultural differences between China and Britain. It will also allow the ambassadors to see first hand the day to day lives of a Chinese family and also sharing the same experience with a Chinese student. **Please Note:** The ambassadors taking part in this programme will be required to reciprocate the services provided to them whilst in China when

their Chinese counterpart visits Britain (I.e. Accommodation and Meals)

Project Costs

Please note: Flights and transportation costs must be covered by the ambassador taking part. Administration charge is £150.00 for each person. Accommodation and meals will be provided. Ambassadors and their families will be required to sign a contract and fulfil acceptable CRB checks in order to ensure satisfactory completion of this project.

What Is Expected Of You

Our overall aim is to provide an excellent standard of service to our Chinese counterparts. We aim to do this by conducting ourselves in a professional, yet approachable fashion. Each ambassador must bare in mind that they are representatives of Britain, therefore performing to an immaculate standard. Each ambassador must also understand certain cultural differences between China and Britain, and conduct themselves appropriately. We intend to achieve this by following **all** Chinese laws and obeying the local legal system. Each ambassador is expected to read and understand all of the below rules:

- **No** consuming of alcohol if under the age of 18 years.
- **No** buying of alcohol for anyone younger than 18 years.
- If you intend to drink, drink **sensibly** and **responsibly**, do not get out of control.
- **No** taking of illegal drugs/ illegal substances.
- **No** damaging public facilities and premises.
- Please refrain from blatantly discussing politically topics in an insensitive manner.
- Dress sensibly, i.e. not too revealing
- Respect that males and females are in separate hotel rooms for obvious reasons.
- Ensure consistent voluntary work of an immaculate standard is achieved in exchange for accommodation and meals.
- The duty of each ambassador is to represent Britain to influence and help Chinese youths and develop a new concept and idea of British culture.
- Each Ambassador must read the health and safety booklet before departure.
- Each Ambassador must ensure travel insurance and passports are all in order.
- Each Ambassador must understand the importance of their behaviour and manner as a British representative.
- Each Ambassador must prepare a personal diary to express an honest point of view of each day of the programme.

- Each Ambassador needs to complete and type up their diary by 1st September and hand it into MCC (this will be displayed by the end of September)

Other Important Points

- It is vital to understand that China's legal system is somewhat different from that of the U.K. China adopts a Capital Punishment system, a fact much publicised in the western media recently, please do not be perturbed by this but do keep it in mind.
- It is also essential to take into account that tap water in China cannot be directly consumed, drink bottled water at all times.
- Make sure you acquire any necessary medication, as well as any supporting documentation, in the UK before departure.
- It is also advised that you notify the establishment which you hold a bank account with that you will be leaving the country if you intend to withdraw money whilst in China, this will help prevent any complications which may arise.

Required Voluntary Commitments

This year we ask each Ambassador to complete a “training programme” (Please see section 4 of this booklet) consisting of voluntary workshops held within the Manchester Chinese Centre. This programme will be composed of group activities presented by the staff of the Manchester Chinese Centre collating all of their experience into a helpful and informative course. Each Ambassador will also be granted the opportunity to assist in some of the Manchester Chinese Centre's many educational courses, as well as taking part in Chinese-Mandarin lessons (also held within the MCC). By completing the training programme each Ambassador will hopefully be fully prepared for any challenges they may face whilst stationed in China, it will also give the entire group the opportunity to gel as a unit making for an even more productive journey to China.

For sponsorship

* Youth Ambassador candidates are asked to complete an authenticated table of tasks carried out (see below), and subsequently fill in an Sponsorship Application and profile outlining their personal transferable skills (e.g. language skills) - a native English speaker is preferred. Completion of this task report with references letter from your teacher or employer, includes a submission of a suitable and personal transferable skills profile. Of which an achievement medal is awarded, they are required to apply for sponsorship.

The successful acquirement of sponsorship of accommodation and food will bring down the overall cost of the Youth Ambassador trip for each candidate from £1295.00 to £550.00(estimate).

Youth Medal Award



Authenticated table of tasks

programme	Name of org.	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Chinese lesson	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig	Sig.	Sig.
Charity work	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig	Sig.	Sig.
Fundraise	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig	Sig.	Sig.
Work experience	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig	Sig.	Sig.
others	Sig.	Sig.	Sig.	Sig	Sig.	Sig.