

## **Bristol Children's Help Society receives the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service**

Bristol Children's Help Society has been honoured with the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the United Kingdom.

Bristol Children's Help Society is the charity responsible for Barton Camp, situated in Winscombe, North Somerset. Barton Camp is a residential campus which provides adventure holidays for schools, youth groups and charities in a countryside setting. There is accommodation for 101 people in the Hardwick and Harvey Centres and the facilities include two fully equipped kitchens, a heated outdoor pool and an indoor activity room. In addition, the spacious grounds include an outside learning area.

Bristol Children's Help Society is one of 230 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive the prestigious award this year. The number of nominations has increased annually since the awards were introduced in 2002, indicating that the voluntary sector is thriving and full of innovative ideas to make life better for those around them.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service aims to recognise outstanding work by volunteer groups to benefit their local communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Recipients are announced each year on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, the anniversary of the Queen's Coronation. Award winners this year are wonderfully diverse and include a community shop in Cornwall, an environmental group in Swansea, a group working with refugees and vulnerable people in Stirling and a thriving community arts centre in County Down.

Representatives of Bristol Children's Help Society will receive the award from Peaches Golding, Lord Lieutenant of Bristol, later this summer. Furthermore, two of the Trustees will attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace in May 2021, along with other recipients of this year's award.

Tom Hood, President of Bristol Children's Help Society, says:

"I am absolutely delighted that the hard work and commitment of everyone involved in the success of Barton Camp has been recognised and we are all thrilled to receive this award. Barton Camp is dependent on volunteers and we are fortunate that ours are of the highest calibre."