



The Matthew Bacon Bursary — Parent Information Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You are receiving this letter because your child/ward has been nominated by their ACF County to be put forward for a Matthew Bacon Bursary.

In September 2005, Major Matthew Bacon of the Intelligence Corps was tragically killed by a roadside bomb in Iraq. Major Bacon was a former cadet in Surrey ACF who went on to be a career soldier. His parents set up a bursary with the Army Cadet Charitable Trust and the Outward Bound Trust in their son's name to celebrate his life.

The aim of the Matthew Bacon Bursary is to enable army cadets to complete a 14-day 'Summit' Adventure with the Outward Bound Trust to build their confidence and develop the ability to take advantage of opportunities that life offers them.

You will be asked to submit some personal information and your consent within the application form given to your child/ward. Please note that you will be contacted by myself and The Outward Bound Trust if they are selected for a bursary.

There are six main phases to the Matthew Bacon Bursary;

- Nomination & Selection
- Pre-Course Administration
- Fundraising
- Course Attendance
- Post Course Administration

As a result of this process, we will need your support to ensure that all chosen cadets are fully aware of the requirements of accepting a Matthew Bacon Bursary. Overleaf I have pre-empted any questions you may have in detail. If you have any further questions, please contact me on the details provided below.

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Registered charity in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland (305962) and in Scotland (SC039057)



The Matthew Bacon Bursary – FAQs

1. Is this a normal Army Cadet Force activity?

No. This is a separate charitable activity organised by the Army Cadet Charitable Trust UK (ACCT UK) and The Outward Bound Trust (OBT) who deliver the 14-day course. The Chain of Command recognise and support this activity.

Although it is possible for other Army Cadets to be in attendance this is not an alternative ACF Annual Camp, the 14-day 'Summit' Adventure Course is privately funded by young people and their families all over the world, not just the UK. Your child/ward will be one of only a few army cadets chosen to attend this activity.

2. How much is the course?

The Matthew Bacon Bursary funds 85% of the total cost of the 14-day 'Summit' Adventure, the personal contribution of bursary recipients will be £200. This personal contribution from the individual is important because it ensures that the cadet is a stakeholder. Ideally, the contribution will be raised through the cadet's own fundraising efforts, and we will support them with help and advice on fundraising. **No monies should be given directly to the OBT.**

3. Who is responsible for travel arrangements?

Ultimately the responsibility of getting bursary recipients to their course location is that of both the ACF County and parents/guardians of the cadet. Please discuss this with your child/ward's Detachment Commander to see what can be arranged. The OBT provide return bus services from main transport hubs in Birmingham, Glasgow, Manchester and Penrith, this will be funded by ACCT UK if this option is chosen.

4. What are the expectations of the bursary recipients?

On accepting a Matthew Bacon Bursary, we expect the individual cadet to be proactive in their fundraising and to submit a fundraising report before attending the course. After attending the course, we expect the individual cadet to submit a report on their experience and a thank you letter that will be passed on to Matthew's family. All this will be detailed in the Bursary Award Letter.

5. Can someone take their place if they can no longer attend?

Any last-minute cancellations will impact financially our ability to award bursaries to other cadets in the future. Due to the nature of the bursary, there is no reserve list. Therefore, all parties must be certain that they can and will attend the course before accepting the bursary.