

press release
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Youth leaders and parents praise value of residential holidays

Youth leaders and parents have given a ringing endorsement of Ventures holidays, according to an independent research report.

The report reveals that 87 per cent of the 205 youth leaders surveyed think Ventures are integral to their week-to-week local church ministry.

Some 98 per cent feel that Ventures provide good Bible teaching, while adjectives such as well-led (98%), well-run (97%) and exciting (92%) also feature high on the list.

The responses of more than 600 parents show that 98 per cent agree with the statement that their children had a great time on a Venture. 97 per cent believe that their children learnt more about the Christian faith, while 88 per cent are likely to send their children on a Venture again in the future.

Ventures, which are Christian residential holidays for 8-18s, host more than 4,500 children and young people each summer.

David Hart, director of Ventures and Falcon Camps at CPAS, said: 'This report shows youth leaders, children and parents giving a great endorsement of the work of Ventures, which we believe is an essential ministry.'

'This is a massive encouragement to our 3,500 volunteers who lead the holidays, working tirelessly throughout the year to plan, prepare and make Ventures so memorable. We are so thankful for their servant-heartedness, and it's wonderful to hear so many other people sharing our gratitude for their commitment, energy and enthusiasm.'

'We commissioned the research to help give us an objective review. The overwhelming feeling of people who responded is positive, but they also want us to maintain the Bible-focused, fun and safe approach to residential holidays that Ventures are known and trusted for.

'Of course that doesn't mean we will rest on our laurels. We want to continue to provide the best possible life-changing, enjoyable holidays for children and young people, where they can hear about the love of Jesus and share their faith with others.

'It is particularly reassuring that, as we go through a significant economic downturn, 89 per cent of parents feel that Venture holidays are good or excellent value for money.'

Popular reasons for taking youth groups on Ventures are to give them an opportunity to think more about their faith (90%), because they enjoy it (89%), to give them an opportunity to meet other Christians (88%) and to enhance their spiritual development (85%).

More than 90 per cent of children who attended Ventures commented that they had a great time, learned more about the Christian faith, met new people and made friends. 92 per cent said they wanted to attend a Venture again in the future, while 87 per cent had recommended Ventures to a friend.

Ends

For further information please call Olly Du Croz on 01926 458443 or email oducroz@cpas.org.uk

Notes to Editors:

- **The report is based on research carried out by QA Research during March 2009.**
- **Ventures are life-changing holidays for 8-18s. Ventures and Falcon Camps are part of the ministry of CPAS, an Anglican evangelical mission agency.**
- **The CPAS vision includes equipping 8,500 leaders over five years to be effective in reaching and discipling children and young people through Ventures and Falcon Camps.**
- **Visit www.ventures.org.uk for further information about Ventures and Falcon Camps.**