



The British Barcelona Club

Charity Nomination 2013.

The British Barcelona Club has for many years been a supporter of charities and in its time raised money for some of the most deserving causes. In 2013 the Committee decided it would make the charity donation to a smaller more localised charity in the hope that it would produce a more direct benefit. After much consideration it was decided to give the money direct to the [Ravensbourne School](#) in Havering.



Not an imposing looking building but a safe and secure environment for the pupils.

www.britishbarcelonaclub.com

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The first principle of the Ravensbourne School is:

“We exist to serve pupils with severe and multiple learning difficulties.”

This sentence sums up the ethos of the school and its staff who “exist to serve pupils”. At times, in this day and age, the concept of service can seem to be a little old fashioned but I guarantee that nobody visiting this school would fail to be impressed by the dedication, the care and attention that the staff devote to their pupils. When I say staff I mean the entire staff not just the teachers and their assistants but cleaners and clerks, cooks and maintenance people. The teaching is of course difficult, very difficult because again, as stated in the first principle, the pupils have “severe and multiple learning difficulties” and these are so wide ranging that it would be difficult to describe and perhaps uncomfortable to read. Yet having said that it is quite amazing the progress that some of them can make. One technique used at the school is to film or photograph the pupils at times during their lessons to illustrate to parents achievements they might otherwise not believe. This might be as seemingly simple a thing as drinking from a cup or beaker but for the child concerned it is a mountain of achievement and for the parent something they never thought possible.

The money that the British Barcelona Club has been able to donate has been relatively small, but a few hundred pounds, the impact it will have however will be considerable. The money will go directly to the benefit of the pupils in the form of a sightseeing trip to central London which for the pupils will be an exciting adventure while for the staff a very hard day’s work. As you can imagine such a day requires considerable planning and organisation but this is just the sort of thing that the staff relish, the opportunity to provide their pupils with a very memorable experience.

The Committee have decided that the 2014 Charity donation will again go to the Ravensbourne School and so I would ask you all, as you make out your race entries this year, to give an extra thought to the benefit you can bring by entering the Charity Nominations. I hope you all have winners but the one way you can be sure of a winner is through the Charity Nomination as even a small amount of money directed in the right way can bring these children a fortune of pleasure.

I would have liked to have included some photographs to convey a message wider than my words but as I am sure you will appreciate this is a very delicate area. I can only assure you that witnessing the recognition of achievement in one of these children, which may only be the flickering of an eye, is about as humbling and rewarding an experience as it is possible to imagine.

Cataluña