

# CYEC

*...what do we need to look out for prior to exchanging?*  
check this out...



Discover some of the high flying opportunities of youth exchange - and how to avoid some of the pitfalls...

The game is based on Snakes and Ladders and you will need a dice and some counters. You have lift-off if you land on the tail fin of a plane – or deep frustration if you land on some red-tape and have to slide back down.

When you do an exchange for real, don't get caught in lots of red tape and despondency – plan ahead and don't leave everything to chance.

## AEROPLANES

- 3** You decide to take the idea of an exchange further and contact CYEC for more advice - and sign up for a training weekend.
- 11** You make contact with another youth exchange group and they give you the low-down from the horse's mouth – it all sounds great and you're still dead keen.
- 16** Your group is full of some lively individuals and you realise you need to team build – so you plan a weekend residential to practice living together.
- 22** Your family seems very keen on the idea of exchanging you for another youth...they're very supportive and get involved in the fundraising!
- 49** As you spend time working together on the exchange you all find you're learning loads of relevant new skills and gaining self-confidence – there's no stopping you now!
- 54** Everyone feels they can have their say and that decisions are made by the group – the group contract is working well and there's hardly ever any conflict.
- 59** Your last fundraising event was well planned and organised and CYEC's confirmed a grant to boot – well done, you're on track to reach your fundraising target!
- 61** All plans have come to fruition, travel documents are in place and you reach the airport in good time – you have lift-off for the best experience of your life!
- 73** During the exchange the groups are really together and supportive - everyone makes friends and has a fun time and no one wants to come home!
- 81** You did it! Your group does a presentation for all your supporters and the local community – everyone's dead impressed!
- 88** You come back with new ideas about what you want to do with your life – and think about furthering your education or training.

*common vision, shared future*





## RED TAPE

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- 26** Some friends say it's uncool to be interested in travel and other cultures - and you believe them! What are you missing?!
- 32** It's proving hard work because people aren't pulling their weight – your team's in danger of disintegrating unless you do some team-building!
- 51** There's been no communication with your overseas partners for 2 months – the exchange is at risk unless you can get talking!
- 55** Your Management Committee is not feeling happy about your risk assessments – you need to postpone the exchange to undertake an advance planning visit.
- 57** A local grant making trust turns down your application for funding and you look to be short of funds – and you don't have any contingency plans.
- 60** Your overseas country introduces a visa requirement in response to UK government action – so now you're caught up in lots of red tape and form filling!
- 75** There are bad relationships within the group and cliques have formed – you haven't spent enough time getting to know each other!
- 83** Your youth leader insists on making all the decisions and acts a bit like a dictator – the group rebels and relationships and understanding need to be re-built.
- 85** The relationship with your partner group hasn't been going too well and you've found communication difficult – they pull out and you have to postpone your visit!
- 90** Your youth leader is taking on far too much and falls ill – you need to re-assess roles and responsibilities. This is supposed to be a group effort!
- 92** On arrival you find your partner group has totally different expectations about the exchange programme – you didn't spend enough time checking out each other's thinking!
- 97** Everything's very strange and different, you hate the food and you're homesick - you're suffering from culture shock! Should have done more crossing cultures preparation!
- 99** You forgot to reconfirm your departure flights – you arrive late at the airport only to find there aren't any seats left and you can't get a flight for another week!

