

Page 4 of 7 - 2. Organisation

Organisation name	Colyton Foundation
Charitable status	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Registration number	1206838
Year the organisation was founded	2024
Address	C/O COLYTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL WHITWELL LANE
Town/City	COLYFORD
Post code	EX24 6HN
Website	https://www.colytonfoundation.org/
Logo	CF White Blue (1).png
Briefly describe your organisation (max 30 words).	Colyton Foundation works to ensure background is not a barrier to higher education for young people in the South West. We support disadvantaged children and young people to excel academically.
What problem(s) does your organisation address? (max 150 words)	We address the problem that only 10% of children who receive free school meals in the South West reach higher education – one of the lowest figures in the country. Children from low socio-economic backgrounds who had high academic attainment during primary school experience a drop in confidence, engagement and outcomes once they transition to secondary. They are left behind, less likely to achieve good qualifications and are significantly less likely to progress to university than their peers elsewhere. As well as living in low-income households, their situation is exacerbated due to living in deprived rural/coastal communities with weak transport links and limited access to extra-curricular activities. 90% of those we support receive free school meals with the remainder living in the lowest two IMD postcode deciles. This lack of attainment and progression creates a vicious circle which keeps generations living in poverty and hinders growth in the region.
How do you address the problem(s) identified and how are the beneficiaries involved in developing the solution? (max 200 words)	Our flagship programme, Your Future Story, has been specifically designed to address the problem. It provides long-term support to disadvantaged children with high primary school attainment to maintain their levels of achievement, confidence and motivation through secondary school and onto university. Through academic and personal mentoring, family engagement and visits to universities and employers, Your Future Story helps pupils sustain strong attainment and keep higher education a realistic option. Within each supported child's school, we also train a Teacher Champion and a senior leader to build their skills and confidence so they can specifically support disadvantaged high achievers within their own schools. We also offer subject-specific support, reciprocal visits, and strategy advice to other schools to raise outcomes across the region. At the same time, we build long-term partnerships with schools, universities, and employers to raise attainment, highlight career options and widen access for the South West's most deprived students. We offer attainment support to all free school meals recipients in primary schools in the South West through our partnership with Atom Home and sup



with competitive university applications, admissions test preparation and interview guidance in sixth forms throughout the region.

What relevant skills and experience does the leadership team have to achieve the organisation's objectives? (max 100 words)

We have the relevant skills and experience to deliver effectively. The Foundation was established by staff and trustees of Colyton Grammar School, one of the highest-performing secondary schools in the country with expertise in enabling high attainers to flourish. Nick Wakeling, Director, is an experienced school leader with first-hand knowledge of what high-attaining pupils need to sustain progress and ambition and of the barriers facing disadvantaged young people. He leads delivery supported by a strong board of trustees and coalition of partners including The South West Institute for Teaching, the Universities of Bristol, Cambridge and Exeter and ImpactEd Evaluation.

Your organisation at a glance

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) your organisation addresses

SDG 4 - Quality Education

Error

You can only select three options.

Theme(s) that best describe your work

Economic development, Education, Poverty alleviation

Checkbox calculation

No answer given

Error2

You can only select two options.

Beneficiaries

Children & young people

Checkbox calculation

No answer given

Country you work in

United Kingdom

UK region

South West

Number of FTE staff in your organisation

2

Number of volunteers in your organisation

3

Does your organisation have a safeguarding policy in place?

Yes

Photo of your work

YFS Leonardo Still-1.jpg



Page 5 of 7 - 3. Impact

How many people does your work directly benefit in a typical year? (number only)

600

What evidence do you have that your solution is effective? (max 200 words)

Colyton Foundation is a young charity, but the need we are addressing is clear and we are amassing evidence that our solution is effective. Our first cohort began in September 2025 and we have recruited 32 schools, trained 32 Teacher Champions and Senior Leaders, launched a 130-pupil cohort and completed a baseline evaluation.

Our first impact report will be published in September. Early feedback is really positive with one participant saying "For me, the Your Future Story programme means bigger opportunities for the future and your hopes and dreams." One of our first cohort of Teacher Champions has said "[Your Future Story] gives kids a clear framework to build their ambitions on, and it gives them the support to realise those ambitions."

Your Future Story is evaluated by ImpactEd using a mixed-methods framework aligned to our Theory of Change. Evaluation runs continuously and covers pupils, parents, and Teacher Champions. Data is benchmarked against a comparison group of non-participating pupils with similar backgrounds.

Tom Levinson from Cambridge University states "We believe Your Future Story represents an effective, evidence-informed approach to improving social mobility and widening participation in higher education".



Page 6 of 7 - 4. Finance

Text Grid**Most recent year**

Financial year	2023/4
Income (£)	1,433
Surplus/deficit (£)	1,133

Title

Financial year	2024/5
Income (£)	75,595
Surplus/deficit (£)	63,589

Title

Financial year	<i>No answer given</i>
Income (£)	<i>No answer given</i>
Surplus/deficit (£)	<i>No answer given</i>

What is your projected income in the current financial year? (£) **75,000**

What are your main sources of funding and how long are these secured for? (max 100 words)

Our current main sources of funding are local authority, corporate and from universities. Our partner universities, Dorset County Council and Leading Schools South West (a charity supporting educational leadership) have provided grants to support our work in 2025-26 (some reflected in 2024/25 income).

Partner universities have pledged future funding to continue support for our existing cohort of Your Future Story in 2026/27. However, additional funds are required both to continue this existing work and expand our programmes to new cohorts each September

We are in the process of developing corporate partnerships, individual sponsorships and charitable grants to support this work.

Do you have a reserves policy similar to as though your organisation was a registered charity?

Yes

Charity/CIO

What is your reserves policy and target level of free reserves? (max 100 words)

The charity aims to maintain a minimum level of reserves that will allow it to:

- **Meet its liabilities and ensure continuity of operations for a set period**
- **Cover emergencies or unforeseen expenses**
- **Absorb fluctuations in income**

The reserve target is equivalent to three months of annual operating costs. This would equate to c£34k in 2025/26 and c£42k in 2026/27.

What were your actual free reserves in your last published accounts? (£)

4028

What is your current level of free reserves and date thereof? If applicable, please explain any material difference between current and target reserves levels (100 words)

£4,028 unrestricted reserves as of 20/03/2025. However, we have sufficient restricted reserves on top of this to complete cohort one this year. As well as £4,028 unrestricted we have over £15,000 restricted for delivery of our first cohort which began in September 2025. We are looking for funding to be used from September 2026 onwards.

Please upload your most recent signed and independently reviewed accounts here.

Accounts Yr 2.pdf



Page 7 of 7 - 5. Connector funding proposal

Name of your proposal	Your Future Story
First name	Anja
Last name	Batista Sonksen
What is the purpose of the funding you are applying for?	Scaling a proven project
How would you use the grant received from TFN? (max 450 words)	<p>We would use the grant to support some of the costs of the second cohort of Your Future Story which is planned to begin in September 2026. Without the important support of funders such as you, we will be unable to induct a second cohort this year to progress alongside cohort one which began in September 2025 and has been highly successful to date. Your Future Story involves supporting children long term throughout secondary school and sixth form with a new cohort joining the others each academic year. As we are a new charity, whilst we only have one cohort currently, the number of cohorts will increase each year to a maximum of 7 and then we intend to have 7 cohorts running simultaneously at any one time. This obviously increases our costs, but we know the demand is there and that we can make a real distance to the attainment of disadvantaged children in the South West and empower them to reach their potential.</p> <p>The costs involved in delivery of a second cohort are staffing costs, administration and insurance, transport costs for university and employer visits, evaluation, teacher champion and senior leader training, attainment support and cohort-building resources. The estimated total of our costs for this cohort is £73,925 meaning a cost of £739.25 per participant for the year which demonstrates exceptional value.</p> <p>Through securing the funding to be able to deliver a second cohort that will run alongside our first, enabling us to scale up our impact and proof of concept. It will allow us to use our expert knowledge of the people we support to continue building momentum and really begin to make a difference for disadvantaged individuals and communities in Devon, Cornwall, Dorset and Somerset. The evidence we collect will provide learning opportunities which will inform the future direction of Your Future Story leading to continual improvements.</p>
How does your proposal seek to achieve social justice? (max 150 words)	<p>Our work is very much based in the desire to achieve social justice and to create a more equal and fair society in South West England. Outcomes for academically able children in the South West are among the worst in the country. The situation is particularly bleak for academically able children from the least privileged backgrounds. Your Future Story ensures this group of children can access more opportunities to reach their potential and that they are not left behind and excluded.</p> <p>The Sutton Trust report, Elite Britain 2025 notes that those in the most influential roles in our country continue to be dominated by the privately educated and graduates of the most prestigious universities. Those from disadvantaged backgrounds are effectively excluded. By supporting our participants to achieve academically and earn places at prestigious universities, we can help create a more fair and equal society.</p>
Please upload your project or operational budget here (whichever is most relevant)	TFN Budget.xlsx

