



TRANSNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE SCOTLAND-BARBADOS

APPLICATION FORM AND INFORMATION PACK

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WHAT IS THE 'SHARED ISLAND STORIES' PROJECT?



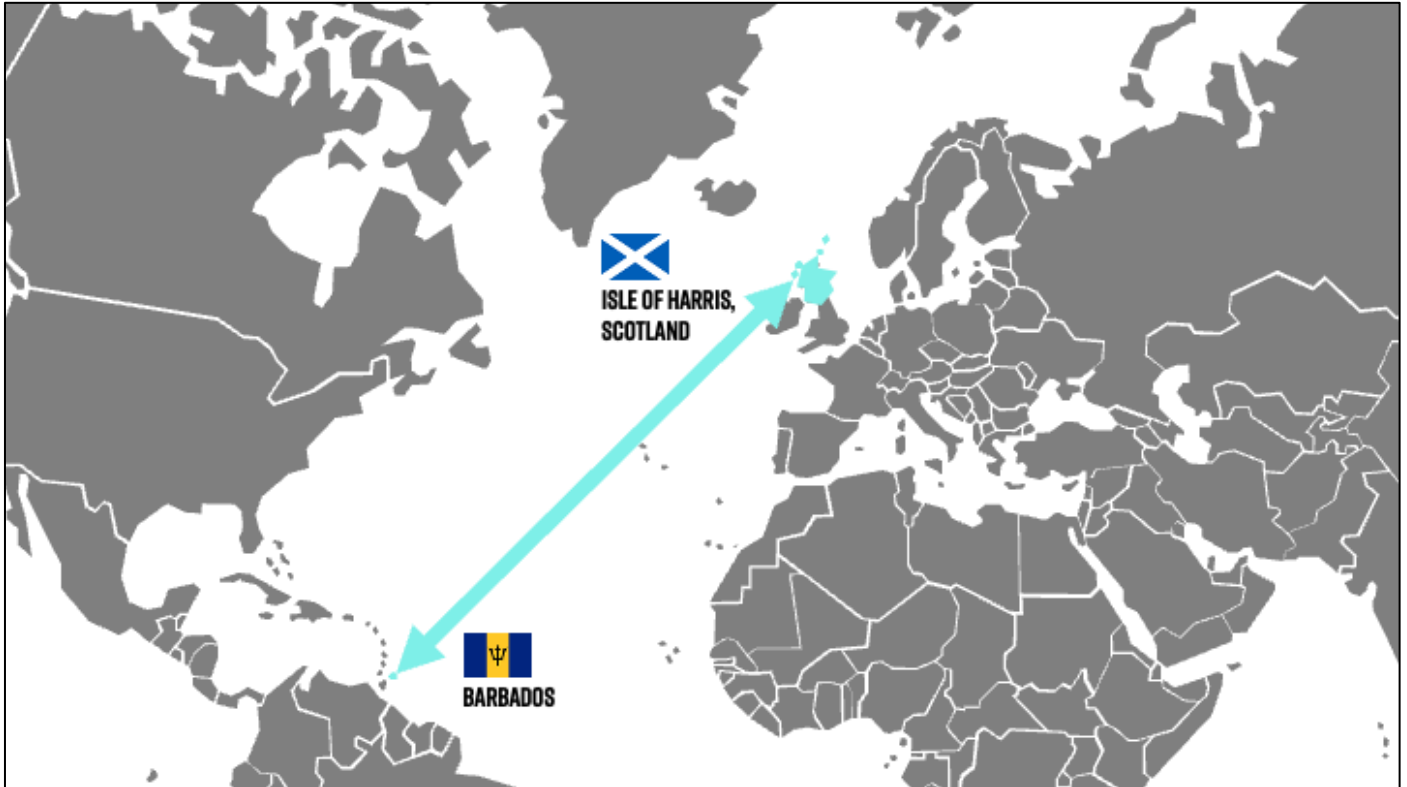
1 Extract from a map of the Isle of Harris

Islands are conventionally associated with romantic ideas of local distinctiveness and isolation, and yet those situated off the west coast of Scotland and the Caribbean share the growing problem of coastal erosion through rising sea levels and storm intensification, as well as economic recession, depopulation and inappropriate tourism development. *Shared Island Stories Between Scotland and the Caribbean: Past, Present, Future* is a 5-year research project coordinated by the School of Art History at the University of St Andrews in Scotland that aims to investigate relationships between the archipelagos.

Drawing on history, heritage studies, sustainable development, art history and memory studies, the project asks: Which collections from the islands tell unfinished stories of Empire? What is the role of heritage communities for sustainable development? How can island community museums partner with NGOs, policy and local organisations and businesses for climate action? How can health and well-being be understood in relation to community heritage, traditional ecological knowledge and island life? What does this new knowledge bring to debates on climate justice, especially as they relate to the role of youth?

The project is funded by the UK Research and Innovation Agency.

TRANSNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE INFORMATION



2 Transatlantic Map for Context

'Shared Island Stories Between Scotland and the Caribbean: Past, Present, Future' is a 5-year research project coordinated by the **School of Art History** at the **University of St Andrews** in Scotland that aims to **investigate the relationships between the archipelagos**. The project is funded by the **UK Research and Innovation Agency**.

Shared Island Stories considers the **'future'** primarily through a **transformative transnational youth exchange** between the **island communities** of the **Isle of Harris** in Scotland and the **Caribbean Island nation** of Barbados. The overall project is managed by the **University of St Andrews**. The **transnational youth exchange** is facilitated by the **University's School of Art History** in collaboration with the **West Harris Trust**, the **Barbados Museum & Historical Society** and **Barbados Community College**.

Starting in January 2023 till late Summer 2024, a **group of 6 young people** from the **Isle of Harris** will participate in **monthly workshops** (dates to be confirmed) themed around the **United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Each workshop will focus on **community heritage** and the **effects of climate change on island communities**, as well as considering the **similarities and differences** in the **landscape, food and other cultural influences** between **Scotland and the Caribbean**. Workshops will seek to **empower the young people** involved to build **self-confidence, social capacities, climate awareness and oral-history skills** via using **audio, video and drone technology**.



The young people involved will become **"Youth Ambassadors"** for heritage and climate change in their respective schools, community groups, countries and internationally through our conference.



3 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In between workshops, young people will be encouraged to explore the landscape together with documenting their personal thoughts and overall reflections through an online journal. The workshops will be held both in-person and virtually, with invited University, community, and youth speakers. At the same time, the Barbados Museum & Historical Society will lead workshops with young people in Barbados based at their museum.

During late summer 2023, the Scottish young people from the Isle of Harris will travel to Barbados to take part in a transnational exchange visit. Offering an opportunity to compare their own community, identity, heritage, and culture with the island nation of Barbados. They will be encouraged to share their workshop experiences to find collective solutions to the challenges of climate change and daily life. In late summer 2024, the Scottish young people will welcome the Barbadian young people to the Isle of Harris and the Outer Hebrides for their transnational exchange visit.

The transnational youth exchange will be accredited through the Scottish Government’s Saltire Award volunteering certification. During Summer 2024, the young people will be awarded their certificates at the *Shared Island Stories* project conference at the University of St Andrews. The certificate can be used towards university, college, apprenticeship and employment applications. All young people will be able to utilise the project as a future reference for such applications.







WHO WILL WORK WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE?

The primary contact for the transnational youth exchange will be **Jamie Allan Brown**, who has been appointed by the **University of St Andrews** as the **Research Fellow** who will lead the ‘future’ element of the project. Jamie has previously coordinated several international community and youth programmes, including a bi-regional youth exchange between the Isle of Skye, Costa Rica and Portugal.

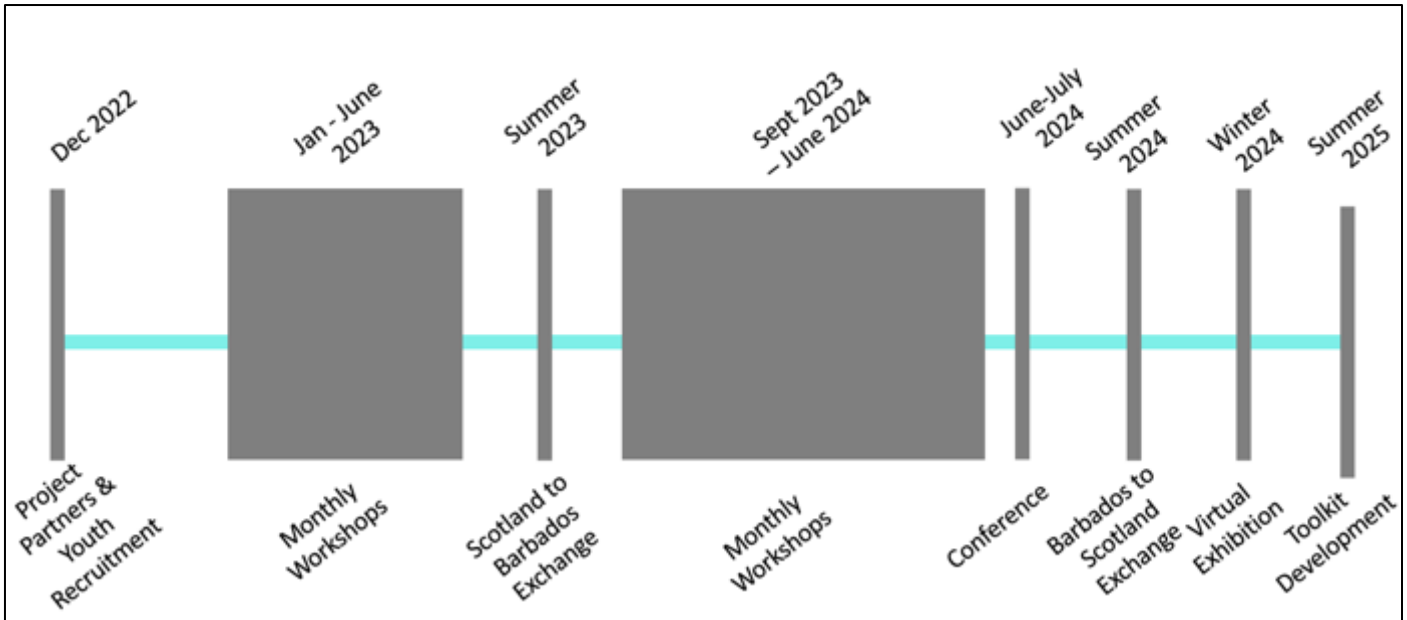
The overall project is coordinated by **Professor Karen Brown** from the **University of St Andrews**. Karen is an expert in **Museums and Heritage Studies** relating to community, sustainability, cultural memory and specialises in community-based museums in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean region.

All **University of St Andrews** staff and students involved are members of **Disclosure Scotland’s Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme)** in accordance with **Scottish Government** legislation and the **University of St Andrew’s** protection of vulnerable groups and criminal records check policy. In Barbados, the **Barbados Museum & Historical Society** follow local legislation and guidance.

The project will work in partnership with **West Harris Trust’s** board, and will invite additional speakers, including from the wider **Isle of Harris** community, the **University of St Andrews** and the **Barbados Museum & Historical Society**.

 <p>Professor Karen Brown Project Lead & Principal Investigator University of St Andrews, Scotland</p>	 <p>Jamie Allan Brown Research Fellow University of St Andrews, Scotland</p>	 <p>Kaye Hall Education and Community Outreach Officer Barbados Museum & Historical Society, Barbados</p>
 <p>John Large Videographer & Research Assistant University of St Andrews, Scotland</p>	 <p>Michelle Cox Theatre Arts Coordinator Barbados Community College, Barbados</p>	 <p>Leonie Leeder Volunteer Graduate University of St Andrews, Scotland</p>

TRANSNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE TIMELINE



4 Timeline

KEYPOINTS



The **main language** of communication will be **English**, however, the **Scottish young people** will be **expected to share Gaelic language and culture** from the **Isle of Harris**, similarly, the **Barbadian young people** will share **Bajan dialects of the English language** and both **national and regional Caribbean culture**.



The project is **funded by the UK Research and Innovation Agency** which covers the cost of each **young person travelling from the Isle of Harris to Barbados**. The funding **also covers basic subsistence (meals and drinks) and accommodation** during this transnational youth exchange to Barbados. We do **request that each young person contributes £200** each to **cover social activities** such as snorkelling and extra snacks such as ice cream. **The project will cover all other costs.**



Young people will be expected to access an internet connection for attending virtual workshops and completing online reflective journals from January 2023 to late-summer 2024.



The **young people** will be asked to **complete a comprehensive medical form** and **seek advice from their GP** regarding vaccinations and general health. We will require a **GP stamped medical form** confirming the young person is in **good health** and **received the recommended vaccinations** to take part. **Comprehensive travel insurance will be provided** by the University of St Andrews.

TRANSNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE CRITERIA



5 Clach Steineagaidh Standing Stone, Isle of Harris, Scotland

The project is looking for **6 fully committed** young people (aged 16-25yrs) to take part who meet the following criteria;

- You must be **16 years old by the time of travel to Barbados** (unfortunately, there are no exceptions due to legal insurance requirements);
- You must have an **interest in local heritage, climate change and the issues facing island communities**;
- You must be studying or previously studied **Gaelic** and/or have a **demonstrated interest** in the language and **live on the Isle of Harris**;
- You must **fundraise or contribute £200 towards the in-person visit to Barbados**, this will cover **social activities** such as snorkelling and extra snacks such as ice cream. **The project will cover all other costs.**
- You must be **respectful and open to different cultures and experiences**;
- You must have a **valid Passport** for travel by summer 2023;
[You can find out more about Barbados entry requirements via <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/barbados/entry-requirements>].
- You must follow your **GP's medical advice for vaccinations and health guidance**;
- **If you are under 18 years old, you must have your parent/carer(s) full permission and consent to take part**;
- Most importantly, you must **be committed to attending all monthly workshops** held either in-person on the Isle of Harris or virtually, **attend the in-person transnational youth exchange visit to Barbados** (summer 2023) and **welcome Barbados young people to the Isle of Harris for their in-person transnational youth exchange visit** (summer 2024).



Remember to check the latest Government advice for travelling to Barbados.

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO): <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/barbados>

NHS Scotland: <https://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/destinations/caribbean/barbados>

APPLICATION PROCESS AND HOW TO APPLY



6 Bathsheba Rocks, Saint Joseph Parish, Barbados

The project requires applicants to follow the process below;

1. Attend an information session at *Talla Na Mara* [Pairc Niseaboist, Isle Of Harris, HS3 3AE] on Thursday 8th December 2022, at 6:30pm to 7:30pm. If you are under 18 years old, a parent/carer(s) must accompany you. Parent/Carer(s) may sign permission/consent forms at this event if they are unable to submit a scanned version.
2. Record a short 5-minute video telling us about you, your community, your concerns about climate change on the Isle of Harris and why you would like to take part by 21:00, Monday 12th December 2022. Email the video or YouTube link to: sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk
3. Complete and submit this application form by 21:00, Friday, 20th December 2022. Email the form to: sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk
4. If you meet all the eligibility criteria, you will be invited to a 10-minute informal virtual interview via Microsoft Teams or Zoom in early January 2023.
5. You will be contacted via email or telephone by Monday, 16th January 2023 to advise of the outcome of your application.



If you have any questions or queries, please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

APPLICATION FORM: PERSONAL & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Full Name:			
Gender:		Preferred Pronouns:	
Date of Birth:			
Home Address (Inc. Post Code)			
Landline Telephone:		Mobile Telephone:	
Email:			

Would this be your first international exchange?	
Do you have any particular dietary requirements?	
Do you have any medical conditions you wish to make us aware of? <i>(Further medical questions on Page 10)</i>	
Can you swim 15m unaided?	
T-Shirt Size <i>(For ordering T-Shirts, if successful)</i>	

APPLICATION FORM: TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

These questions are an opportunity for us to get to know a bit about you and why you want to take part in the transnational youth exchange. We advise that you write using your own words.



If you need more space, please write on a separate sheet or document, and attach it together. Don't worry if the document moves about.

Remember, you don't need specific skills or experience— but we are looking for young people who are fully committed to the project and championing solutions to the challenges facing island communities such as climate change. We are also looking for young people who want to share the heritage of the Isle of Harris and Scotland across the world.

Please state why you would like to be involved in 'Shared Island Stories' and why it is important to you to champion local heritage and climate change.

What strengths can you bring to this transnational youth exchange? Please give an example of being committed to a previous project you were involved in.

What will you find challenging in the workshops and planned in-person transnational visits?

What climate change-related issues are facing your community in the Isle of Harris?

Do you study, have previously studied or have an interest in Gaelic? If so, how would you share Gaelic language and culture with other young people?

How do you plan to fundraise/contribute £200 towards the project? (e.g. fundraising events, or self-funded)

APPLICATION FORM: CODE OF CONDUCT

Parent/Carer(s) Signature:		Date:	
Young Person's Signature:		Date:	

TO BE READ BY THE YOUNG PERSON (AND THEIR PARENT/CARER(S) IF UNDER 18 YEARS OLD) - By completing this application form you are accepting our code of conduct and agreeing to abide by the following rules during this transnational youth exchange. Failure to comply will result in you being asked to leave.

- No alcohol consumption**
You will be representing your own community and Scotland in Barbados. It is important that participants are at all times able to behave appropriately, make sound judgements and control their actions to keep themselves and others safe. Therefore consumption of alcohol during the programme is prohibited for all staff, students and participants, regardless of age or position.
- No inappropriate relationships during this project**
There is a requirement of oversight and guidance from staff and students as role models and mentors; as a result, no intimate relationships between participants (staff or young people and regardless of age) are allowed during this project.
- No illegal activities, including drug taking**
In both Scotland and Barbados, the buying, selling or taking of drugs, including marijuana, is punishable by severe penalties. Participation in any illegal activity including, but not limited to, consumption or procurement of illegal substances is not tolerated and can result in the involvement of local authorities and/or immediate removal from the programme. If you break the law of the country you are in, you risk facing the local legal system.
- Respect the local culture, traditions and customs**
You will seek to be discreet and sensitive in Barbados, and show respect for the way of life of those who accept us into their communities. We have much to learn from each other's cultures and, as a representative for your own community and a guest in theirs, it is important to understand local traditions, behaviours and crucially histories and be sensitive to them at all times.
- No acts of physical or verbal violence. Don't put yourself or others at risk**
Any acts of violence (which includes serious verbal threats of violence or bullying) between young people, staff, students and others in the community will not be tolerated. Your behaviour during the transnational programme must not prejudice the safety and wellbeing of any member of the group, or the progress of the Youth Exchange.
- Equal Opportunities & Diversity**
All activities will be operated in an equal opportunities framework which is committed to taking every measure to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all young people regardless of gender, age, stage of development, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, culture, or ethnicity.

APPLICATION FORM: EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The *'Shared Island Stories'* transnational youth exchange is managed by the University of St Andrews in collaboration with the West Harris Trust, the Barbados Museum & Historical Society and Barbados Community College. We are committed to being an equal opportunities project, promoting fairness and diversity. To monitor the effective delivery of this commitment, *'Shared Island Stories'* requests all applicants provide the following information. The data on this form will **not be used in conjunction with your application form** and will be **treated in the strictest confidence**. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. It is helpful if you complete all sections of the form.

Disability is defined by the Equality Act as: 'A physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. The disability could be physical, sensory or mental and must be expected to last for more than 12 months or for the rest of the life of the person affected.'



If you have any questions or queries, wish to discuss any disability or access concerns please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

Are you a disabled person as defined by the Equality Act 2010? If required, please advise what additional support you need to be part of this project.

Do you have any additional learning needs? (e.g. Asperger's, autism, ADHD, dyspraxia, dyslexia)? If required, please advise what additional support you need to be part of this project.

APPLICATION FORM: MEDICAL, DIETARY & INSURANCE INFORMATION

The young person applying will be **expected to attend monthly workshops** in the Isle of Harris or virtually. They will be **expected to take part in a transnational exchange to Barbados** for up to 12 days. This will involve **travel to remote rural communities, basic living conditions and challenging climates with high humidity and temperatures with a risk of insect bites**. During travel, the young person will be **expected to carry their own backpack/luggage (of up to 20kg)**.

If the young person is successful we will ask them to **complete a comprehensive medical form** and seek advice from their GP regarding vaccinations and general health. We will require a **GP stamped medical form** confirming the young person is in **good health and received the recommended vaccinations** to take part. **Comprehensive Travel insurance** will be arranged for the young people, details of policy will be provided before travelling.



If you have any questions or queries, wish to discuss any medical, dietary or insurance concerns please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

Do you have or previously suffered from any medical illness or issues that you would like us to be aware of? (Including allergies, regular medication etc).

Do you have any specific dietary requirements? (e.g. vegan, vegetarian)

APPLICATION FORM: £200 CONTRIBUTION

Full Name of Young Person:	
Young Person's Date of Birth:	

TO BE READ BY THE YOUNG PERSON (AND THEIR PARENT/CARER(S) IF UNDER 18 YEARS OLD)

This project has received funding from the UK Research and Innovation Agency. The overall project is managed by the **University of St Andrews**, with **funding covering** the cost of each **young person travelling from the Isle of Harris to the island national of Barbados**. The funding also **covers basic subsistence** (meals and accommodation) during this transnational youth exchange.

'Shared Island Stories' recognised that the **young people will require adequate international travel insurance** for taking part in this project. We also recognise that the **young people would benefit from various social and travel experiences** unique to Barbados, therefore we will seek to **arrange escorted excursions to culturally enrich their experience**.

As with other international youth exchanges, a reasonable contribution of **£200.00 is required** to meet the **needs if the extra social excursion costs**. This amount is much lower compared to other international youth exchanges. **This contribution can be wholly fundraised by the young person, paid for their parents/carer(s) or a mixture of both. This is entirely up to the young person and their parent/carer(s).**

The £200.00 contribution will need to be handed over to the project by June 2023. Any monies fundraised **above £200.00 are welcome**. Extra monies will be used towards contributing to the Barbados transnational youth exchange that will visit the Isle of Harris and Scotland in late-summer 2024.



If you have any questions or queries, wish to discuss any contribution concerns please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

By signing below, I/We hereby understand to be part of this transnational youth exchange, **a minimum of £200.00** contribution will need to be paid to *'Shared Island Stories'* by June 2023.

Parent/Carer(s) Signature:		Date:	
Young Person's Signature:		Date:	

APPLICATION FORM: CRITERIA QUESTIONS

Will you be 16yrs or older by July 2023?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Do you speak basic Gaelic or have an interest in it?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you able to attend monthly workshops at <i>Talla Na Mara</i> ? (Dates to be confirmed.)	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you able to commit to documenting your experiences and thoughts via an online reflective journal?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Do you have a valid Passport to travel?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you able to travel to Barbados during Summer 2023?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Do you commit to welcoming the Barbados young people to the Isle of Harris in Summer 2024?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you able to fundraise/contribute £200.00 towards the project for extra social activities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Will you follow your GP's medical advice for vaccinations?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO



If you have any questions or queries, please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

WHAT KIT WOULD I NEED TO BRING WITH ME TO BARBADOS?

TO BE READ BY THE YOUNG PERSON (AND THEIR PARENT/CARER(S) IF UNDER 18 YEARS OLD)

'Shared Island Stories' will issue a detailed and comprehensive list 4 months before travelling. This will prepare the young people for travelling long distances within island and rural communities, living within basic living conditions and challenging climates with high humidity and temperatures.

We **do not want you to spend lots of money** on brand-new items that you may not need, so young people will be asked to look at what they already have. We will encourage you to **ask your friends and family** if they have items you can **borrow**. For example, you do not need to buy expensive technical clothing when a **regular t-shirt** will do. However, some items (e.g. **boots and rucksack/suitcase**) are worth spending a little extra on if possible as you'll be using them every day. We will **recommend particular items that are useful** for travelling to **Barbados's climate and island landscape** such as the following (full list to be confirmed);

THIS IS NOT A COMPLETE LIST – FOR EXAMPLE PURPOSES ONLY

Comfortable 55-95 Litre Top loading Rucksack or Suitcase with wheels & Small Daily Use Bag	Walking Boots with ankle support	Photographs of Family/Harris to share with communities
First-Aid Kit	Suncream & Deet Insect Repellent Spray	Sunglasses & Hat
Medication (Inc. Anti-Diarrhoea & Eye Wash Kit)	Plentiful Supply of Toiletries, Towel, Wet Wipes & Hand Sanitizer	Small Gifts for local families that host dinner (e.g. Scottish sweets, magnets, tea towels)
Mobile Phone/Tablet/Camera* Earphones for Music* Battery Pack/Charger*	3-5 T-Shirts/Shirts 2 Long-Sleeved for Evenings	Lightweight Waterproof Jacket
2 Pairs of Trousers (Jeans) 2 Pairs of Shorts	5-7 Pairs of Socks & Underwear	Swimming Costume/Shorts
Money for Souvenirs*	Glasses/Contact Lenses if required	Other Shoes (Trainers/Flip-Flops)

If the young person brings items marked with () it will be the young person's responsibility to look after these items. The University of St Andrews or any other partners will not be held responsible if the item is lost or stolen.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO CONSENT FORM

Full Name of Young Person:	
Young Person's Date of Birth:	

I give my consent for my photograph, video and audio recordings connected with the *'Shared Island Stories'* research project to be used in any reproductions or adaptations of the images for fundraising, publicity or other purposes to help achieve the project's aims. This might include (but is not limited to), the right to use them in printed and online publicity, social media, press releases and funding reports. Please tick the appropriate box to agree or disagree:

YES

NO

This project is coordinated by the School of Art History at the University of St Andrews. It is funded by the United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) agency.

Parent/Carer(s) Signature:		Date:	
Young Person's Signature:		Date:	



If you have any questions or queries, wish to discuss any photography or recording concerns please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

PARENT/CARER(S) CONSENT FORM (IF UNDER 18 YEARS OLD)

Full Name of Young Person:	
Young Person's Date of Birth:	

I/We have read and understand the activities and requirements of what is involved in the 'Shared Island Stories' transnational youth exchange between Scotland and Barbados. As the young people is aged less than 18 years old we agree that the 'Shared Island Stories' project and its representatives will act *in loco parentis* until they are 18 years of age during this project.

I/We hereby give consent for the above-named young person to participate as a volunteer participant in the transnational youth exchange (including the in-person visit to Barbados) and any Scotland or UK-based workshops/events as applicable. I confirm that the above-named young person will be 16yrs or older by July 2023.

'Shared Island Stories' and partners will not disclose any personal information about the individual to a third party.



If you have any questions or queries, please contact Research Fellow, Jamie Allan Brown via email sharedislandstories@st-andrews.ac.uk or call 07721859356.

Name of Parent/Carer(s):			
Parent/Carer(s) Telephone/Mobile:			
Parent/Carer(s) Email:			
Parent/Carer(s) Signature:		Date:	
Young Person's Signature:		Date:	