

Dear Supporters of Golden Futures,

Thanks so much for all of your precious support this year, we have had such a wonderful time out here in Cambodia and although we are very sad to go, we have a sense of completion and fulfilment having done everything we came here to do and more.

During our time here we have learnt just how special and unique each and every child is at NFC, showing us just how important it is that they all have the support they need in order to achieve their dreams. They do this with your kind help, so I would like to start with a huge thank you from us and all of the children and staff at NFC.

Unfortunately four of those originally chosen to come on the trip had to drop out, so there were only four of us left. This made carrying out our tasks in the set time much more difficult - but we managed it! We also felt that there being fewer of us allowed us to form a stronger bond with the children which was very important.

Our first task at NFC was to interview the students to get to know them, what their future plans were, what their needs were, and what we could do to help them. We learnt how hard working and dedicated they are, and everyone we spoke to had big dreams! To bring them one step closer to these dreams, we arranged for those who needed it to go on university visits, and attend workshops. The workshops included: Future Possibilities, where we explained which skills and talents could lead to which jobs, as well as showing the students just how many jobs are out there for them; Budgeting, where the students learnt how to manage money when they are at university or working; CV writing, where the students learnt what to include in a CV, how to set it out and how to write a cover letter; Interview Skills, where we learnt how to conduct yourself in an interview and what to expect when you have one; and Business in Cambodia, where the students learnt what it would take to set up a business out here, as lots have expressed a wish to do that. Using a combination of our different skills in the group, together we hope to have passed on a lot of knowledge.

We also had the task of updating the university guide to ensure all the information from last year was still correct and to add in any new institutions. The information included course details, admissions, tuition fees, scholarships, plus a profile on each of the universities and their rank. When we finished, the university guide looked fantastic, the cover was new and exciting and all the information was easy to read, plus we had it translated into Khmer on the opposing pages so we could be sure the students understood everything. We then worked to distribute it to other organisations who also needed it - it was great to know that we were helping many more students at different organisations make the difficult decision about going to university.

Many students also got to go on work experience! Two went to a tour guide agency, and two to a hospital. Here they got a sense of what it was like to work in that profession and they all really enjoyed themselves. Both places were very welcoming and took good care of the students, which was very kind. The workshops and trips went spectacularly well and we hope it was an

invaluable experience for the students. The students were pro-active in obtaining this work experience, writing their own application emails to the companies, which is excellent practice for later life and helped improve their confidence and writing. They also made the calls themselves to universities to request visits, and when these were successful they were able to have a tour of the university and find out what university life is like.

Only one student, Kosal, was considering applying for the Golden Futures loan, but it was a tricky process as he was struggling to decide which course to apply for. Luckily, with the the help of our newly updated After School Advice Booklet which contained advice for applying for a loan and an application form, Kosal made the decision to study Electrical Engineering and was successful in his application! This is fantastic news and we wish Kosal all the best with his studies and the future they will bring.

Thank you so much for all of your help this year, the trip was an outstanding success and we hope to continue to support everyone at NFC. This can only be done with your support, so please visit www.goldenfutures.org.uk for more information on how you can help make a huge difference to these children's lives!