

SPONSORSHIP POLICY

As a child sponsor you will receive:

- a **Welcome Pack** including a folder with your sponsored child's photo and personal details and information about your sponsored child's community.
- a **Progress Report**, twice a year, detailing the educational status of your sponsored child and achievements his or her community has made with your support. With the school report you will also receive a letter and/or a drawing or photos of your sponsored child.
- regular editions of the Bali Children Foundation's **e-Newsletter** sent to you by email.
- the opportunity to develop a personal connection with your sponsored child by exchanging letters, e-letters, cards and photographs. All communication between a sponsor and their sponsored child is through the BCF office for both parties' security and protection.

Ideally, child sponsorship is a long-term commitment throughout the period of their schooling which can typically last for 6-10 years. How long child sponsorship lasts will be different for each sponsor. Some sponsors join us at an early stage of their sponsored child's school, perhaps in elementary school. Sometimes the children may be beginning junior high school or senior high school. It is also possible that you might like to remain a sponsor to take them through to university or vocational school.

Despite the best intentions of both parties, sponsorship can end for a number of reasons. These include:

- when your sponsored child finishes school or begins to earn an income
- when your sponsored child's family moves away from the community where they are living and sponsored
- when your sponsored child goes on to Tertiary studies. At that point you can choose to continue the sponsor relationship or not. As Tertiary education is more expensive (currently \$1,650 pa), many sponsors join with friends or family to continue with Tertiary support.

Yayasan Samiarsa Seminyak

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No. 53, Kuta, Badung, Bali
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Administration Office

Pertokoan Semer Jaya Kav 3-4
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BCF- Banjar Office

Jl Raya Seririt Singaraja
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PO Box 134
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Whatever the reason, we will notify you when your sponsorship comes to an end and, at that time, offer you the opportunity to continue on to Tertiary support or to sponsor another child still at school.

Am I the only sponsor for my sponsored child?

Each child only has one sponsor. This is unless you want to include a family member or a friend as a co-sponsor.

What if I need to cancel? Is sponsorship a contract?

We encourage sponsors to view sponsorship as a long-term commitment. However, a sponsor may cancel at any time, for any reason.

We understand that people's circumstances change over time. If you are unable to make regular payments, either temporarily or permanently, we can assist you with a range of options.

If you do need to cancel your sponsorship, we will inform your sponsored child and their family and we will ensure your sponsored child is made available for sponsorship by another family or individual.

How can I connect with my sponsored child?

Your sponsored child loves to hear from you – imagine what it means for children living in the world's poorest communities to know that someone they don't know and perhaps lives in another country is caring about them.

Over time, you will see your sponsored child develop and grow and watch the positive changes that your sponsorship brings to them and their community.

If you have children, corresponding with your sponsored child is a great way for them to learn about poverty and the world beyond Australia.

Being a sponsor does not oblige you to write. The connection you have with your sponsored child is entirely up to you. For many people, just knowing they are making a difference is enough. Whether you choose to write or not, you will receive an Annual Progress Report with updates on your sponsored child.

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When sending a letter, here are some general guidelines to follow:

1. Keep it short and simple.

In most cases the letter will be read or translated by someone not speaking English as a first language.

2. Don't address the letter.

Please do not include your address on the actual letter to keep your personal information private.

3. Provide your details on the envelope.

Please write your name and address on the back of the envelope, along with your sponsored child's full name and ID number.

4. Where to send your letter.

Address your envelope to the BCF office in Bali or to the BCF office in Australia. You will find our address in the Welcome Pack.

Please note: *BCF places the highest priority on child protection. Because of this all letters/cards are opened, logged and vetted to ensure they do not contain offensive or inappropriate content.*

Can I visit my sponsored child?

Yes. Many sponsors add a visit to their sponsored child to a planned trip to Bali. It is a rewarding way to see first-hand how your contributions are helping to make a difference. Of course it is much easier for sponsors who are living in Bali. We usually have one "Open Weekend" in our Projects each month. These are listed on our website under Events/Village Open Days.

If the scheduled weekend does not fit into your planned visit, please contact us and we will try and arrange an individual trip. Please try to make your visits on Sundays. On other days our students are busy at school or with extracurricular activities like BCF sports and cultural clubs. School runs six days a week in Bali.

If you are thinking about visiting your sponsored child:

- Please contact our Bali office by email or phone. If possible, please give at least one month's notice before your intended visit date. We do not want you to be disappointed if you can not meet your sponsored child due to not allowing us sufficient time to set a meeting.

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- Once we have confirmed your visit, we will arrange for a staff member, or one of our specialist volunteers, to accompany you and act as an interpreter on the day of your visit. Most of the children speak some English but it is nice to have someone translate for you so they will understand exactly what you want to say.

What percentage of money donated gets to the field?

- BCF is committed to using all donations both wisely and effectively. We combine the contributions of child sponsors with funds from other sources, and leverage these for maximum impact. Our total expenditure on administration, Compliance and fund raising is less than 8% of our annual expenses. The balance of our spending, 92%, goes directly towards the education of our children.
- Full details of our financial stewardship and use of donated funds can be found in our annual reports, available at our BCF office in Bali.
- In the financial year 2014, Bali Children Foundation spent a total of \$204,096 Of this figure over 92% was spent on our 1052 scholarship children's education. The balance (less than 8%) was used to cover administration, Compliance and fund raising.

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