**Arctic Challenge FAQs**

**Will the event still go ahead if more than 20 people apply?**

Yes – if we fill one trip, we have the option to run a second trip if there is enough interest. The minimum number we will need to run a second trip is 12 people.

**Do I have to sign up as a team of 4?**

No, you’re very welcome to sign up as an individual or with one or two other people! If you do so, we will assign you a team with others who have also signed up as individuals. If you sign up as a team of more than five, we may have to split you up, as the set up of the challenge is better suited to teams of four or five.

**How does the selection process for places work?**

Places are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Your place is not confirmed until you have paid your deposit of £300 and returned your registration form to <mailto:fundraise@literacytrust.org.uk>.

**What happens if we aren’t able to raise the full £2,000 in time?**

We ask all participants to raise at least 80% of their fundraising target four weeks prior to the challenge because 25% of the money you raise will go towards the logistical costs of the challenge. Therefore, the 80% target gives us some assurance that we will raise enough money from the challenge to benefit the charity. If you are struggling to meet the 80% target and are not able to make up the difference yourself, we will support you to meet your target through helping you put in a plan to share your page with your connections and set up a fundraising activity.

The most important thing is to fully commit yourself to the fundraising by organising activities, sharing with all your connections and being creative in order to raise as much as possible. The vast majority of participants do reach their fundraising target, but they have put in a real effort and have really applied themselves to it in order to reach their goal.

**Can the fundraising target include matched funding?**

It can, however please let us know when and how to expect the matched funding so we can factor it into your fundraising total.

**What’s the deadline for raising £2,000?**

We ask that all participants raise at least 80% of their fundraising target by four weeks prior to the challenge. After the challenge, we generally give participants around 4 weeks to wrap up their fundraising and meet the overall fundraising target, but we’re happy to give you more time if you have activities planned in which you need more time to complete.

**What kind of support is avaliable for fundraising? Are there any recommended methods?**

We will organise 3 online sessions for all participants where you will receive fundraising tips and ideas, here about what others have done in the past and be able to ask questions and share inspiration. You will also receive regular emails with tailored support and in the last month in the lead up to the challenge we will organise weekly fundraising drop-in sessions which you can join to raise concerns, ask urgent questions and have a chat about your fundraising if you need support. Furthermore, we will provide a number of digital fundraising resources including an A-Z guide of fundraising ideas, a bespoke fundraising pack for supporters taking part in a challenge event, key National Literacy Trust statistics and more.

**How much of the £300 registration fee and £2000 fundraising goes towards the charity?**

The whole of the £300 will go towards the charity, and 25% of the £2000 that you fundraise will go towards the logistical costs of the challenge.

**Do we get flexibility in choosing how we fundraise?**

You can fundraise however you like!

**How do we declare a team when we’ve all signed up separately?**

If you would like to be in a team with specific people, please let us know when you send in your registration form to [fundraise@literacytrust.org.uk](mailto:fundraise@literacytrust.org.uk)– we will do our best to accommodate all requests.

**Would we get the same flight together? If so, which airport would this go from?**

We advise all UK-based participants to catch the same flight from Heathrow, as this is where the key airline Scandinavian Airlines (SAS), flies to Kiruna from. Kiruna is where you’ll be picked up and taken to the first accommodation you’ll be staying in as part of the challenge.

**Do you get provided with heavy duty winter clothing for the trip?**

Yes – please see the information pack for details on the kit list and what kit is provided.

**Is the trip suitable for Coeliacs/people with severe allergies when the food needs to avoid cross-contamination?**

While the kitchen is relatively large, it's still an outdoor camp; it does not have electricity or running water. Of course, hygiene standards will be adhered to, but under the current conditions, it's difficult to completely avoid cross-contamination.

We rarely use open flour, but we only have four gas burners, which are obviously needed for the other – usually quite large – number of guests. Of course, we can use a separate pan/pot for the gluten free food, but it will probably be cooked next to the normal food.

We like to buy gluten-free alternatives and use other utensils while cooking, but we don't prepare food in a commercial kitchen, so I don't want to completely rule out possible contamination with non-gluten-free foods.