

Olivia Mansell Gliding Scholarship

The HCAP Gliding Scholarship at Camphill was an incredibly valuable and memorable experience, and I am extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to take part. The scholarship provided me with an insight into an aspect of aviation that I had previously only experienced through my involvement with the Air Cadets, allowing me to develop my understanding and practical skills in a completely different environment.

Throughout the scholarship, I flew in a **Puchacz** with Allan, who provided me with invaluable instruction and guidance. I developed a much greater understanding of the principles of flight and learnt how to apply the theoretical knowledge I had gained to practical flying. I was able to develop my ability to use the controls, maintain awareness of the aircraft and its surroundings, and understand how different inputs affected the glider. Each flight presented a new opportunity to learn and improve, and I found that my confidence and understanding developed considerably throughout the experience.

One of the most rewarding aspects was being able to take an active role in flying the aircraft. This required a high level of concentration and communication, as well as the ability to remain calm and make appropriate decisions. I particularly enjoyed the challenge of translating what I had learnt into practical skills, as it gave me a much deeper appreciation of the knowledge, precision and judgement required in aviation.

The experience also allowed me to meet a number of people who were extremely welcoming and passionate about gliding. The atmosphere at Camphill made the scholarship particularly enjoyable, and speaking to people with such a wide range of experience gave me a greater appreciation of the wider gliding community. I felt very fortunate to be able to learn not only from my instructor, but also from those around me.

In addition to developing my flying skills, I believe the scholarship has helped me develop personally. It strengthened my confidence, communication and ability to learn from unfamiliar situations. It also reinforced the importance of patience, concentration and continual improvement, all of which are skills that I can apply beyond gliding.



Overall, the HCAP Gliding Scholarship was **one of the most rewarding experiences I have had**. It gave me the opportunity to develop skills that I would otherwise not have had the chance to experience, while allowing me to meet some fantastic people and become even more interested in aviation. I have gained a great deal from my time at Camphill and would very much like to continue developing my gliding skills in the future.

I would like to sincerely thank HCAP, Camphill and everyone involved in making the scholarship possible. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity and for the knowledge, experience and memories I have gained from it.

