



BLUE PATHWAYS

Creating Pathways to Opportunity

A Leadership & Workforce Development Initiative by Wet & Salty Sailing School

One Sponsorship. One Young Person. One New Future.





MEET DANNY

“I always dreamed of sailing the seas.”

Today, at just 19 years old, Danny is a professional charter catamaran captain in Barbados. He began through a community sailing outreach programme and turned a dream into a career. His journey shows what becomes possible when talent is matched with access, training and mentorship.

Blue Pathways exists to create many more stories like Danny’s.

WHY WE CREATED BLUE PATHWAYS

Every year we watch sailing transform lives. Young people who arrive unsure of themselves leave with confidence, discipline, teamwork and leadership skills that extend far beyond the water.

Blue Pathways was created because too many talented young Barbadians never receive the opportunity to discover what they are capable of. The programme opens access to internationally recognised training, mentorship and meaningful pathways into Barbados' growing Blue Economy.

— **Marianna Polacka, Founder**



WHO THE PROGRAMME IS FOR

Blue Pathways is designed for motivated Barbadians aged 16–22. Participants may be in secondary school, Sixth Form, university or vocational training, already employed, or exploring their next step. No previous sailing experience is required.

BUILT AROUND SCHOOL & WORK

Training begins with 3 day sailing course and then takes place one half-day — approximately 4 hours — every weekend. Participants can continue school, university, vocational training or employment while building practical skills throughout the year.

THE PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Age	16–22
Duration	52 weeks
Weekly commitment	Approximately 4 hours every weekend
Practical experience	226+ hours per participant
Previous sailing experience	None required
Training boats	J24 one-design racing sailboats
Qualification	Internationally recognised ASA certification
Annual capacity	Up to 80 young Barbadians

WHAT PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE

Each participant receives a complete year of structured development—not a one-off sailing experience.

- **International certification:** ASA 101 Basic Keelboat Sailing training and certification.
- **Weekly practical sailing:** Approximately four hours on the water every weekend for 52 weeks.
- **Club membership:** Access to regular sailing, practice sessions and the Wet & Salty sailing community.
- **Racing and regatta experience:** Opportunities to crew, communicate, make decisions and perform as part of a team.
- **Leadership development:** Real responsibility at the helm and in every crew role.
- **Mentorship:** Guidance from experienced sailors, instructors and marine professionals.
- **Career exposure:** Introduction to roles in marine tourism, charter operations, instruction, marina services and the wider Blue Economy.
- **A professional network:** Relationships, references and connections that can support future education and employment.



WHAT PARTICIPANTS EXPERIENCE

Blue Pathways uses sailing as the classroom for leadership, teamwork and personal growth. On a J24 there are no passengers: every person contributes, communicates and takes responsibility.

LEARN Boat handling • Seamanship • Navigation • Safety • Weather awareness	DEVELOP Leadership • Confidence • Discipline • Communication • Problem solving
EXPERIENCE Weekly sailing • Club racing • Regattas • Teamwork • Community	PROGRESS Mentorship • Professional connections • Career exposure • Further training

OUR ANNUAL POTENTIAL IMPACT

80	52	18,080+	80
Young People	Weeks	Development Hours	ASA Certifications

WHY PARTNER WITH BLUE PATHWAYS?



Your investment supports young Barbadians while delivering measurable CSR value, credible community impact and positive brand visibility.

YOUR IMPACT

- Life-changing access for young Barbadians
- Leadership and workforce development
- International ASA certification
- Mentorship and career pathways
- Support for Barbados' Blue Economy

YOUR ORGANIZATION RECEIVES

- Recognition on the Wet & Salty website
- Regular recognition across Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn
- Sponsor logo on programme materials
- Professional photography, video and participant stories
- Content suitable for your own CSR and marketing channels
- Acknowledgement at graduations and programme events
- Media and PR opportunities where applicable
- Annual impact report with measurable outcomes

PARTNERSHIP LEVELS

BRONZE	Sponsor 1 participant	BBD 7,780
SILVER	Sponsor 3 participants	BBD 23,340
GOLD	Sponsor 5 participants	BBD 38,900
PROGRAMME PARTNER	Strategic support for programme growth	

HOW SUCCESS WILL BE MEASURED

Every corporate partner receives clear reporting on the outcomes made possible through their support.

Participation

Enrollment • Attendance • Retention • Completion

Skills

ASA certifications • Practical hours • Safety and seamanship progress

Leadership

Crew roles • Responsibility • Teamwork • Communication

Engagement

Club sailing • Regattas • Mentorship • Community activity

Career Pathways

Further training • Internships • Employment • Marine-industry progression

Partner Visibility

Digital reach • Social-media content • Events • Media exposure



IMAGINE THE FUTURE

Every young person deserves the chance to discover what they are capable of.

Imagine Barbados ten years from now: hundreds of young people who once thought sailing was out of reach are now captains, instructors, marine professionals, entrepreneurs and leaders. Every one of them started with a single opportunity.

Join us in building Barbados' next generation of leaders.