

Integrated Youth Services Youth Work Update for **Westbury** **Wiltshire Council**

Youth Work update

Sessions that run in the Youth Development Centre and within the community as of August 2013 are as follows:

Tuesdays-Girls Night, as there was a need for single gender work, this includes ASDAN Award Scheme & trampoline coaching with qualifications from BAGA

Wednesdays-Open night & focused projects, including Arts Awards, Duke of Edinburgh & Heritage Project called Virtual Landscapes, in partnership with Salisbury Arts Festival, this caters for a Universal Youth Work offer for all young people, as well as some focused projects

Thursdays-Junior Club & Young Leaders at the centre, for younger 'young people', year 6-7 and older 'young people' aged 16 plus to train as Young Leaders. Street Based Youth Work runs in the community after this session where youth workers engage with young people where they live and socialise

Targeted 1:1 work at Matravers School on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays for intensive support and guidance/intervention work

Our overarching aims of the service are to engage young people in positive developmental activities to help them reach their full potential. This is all done with an informal approach and is on a voluntary basis. Young people take part in a diverse range of activities which they plan with Youth Developmental Workers. They can achieve a range of accreditations with us, including Food Safety, First Aid, ASDAN, Arts Award, BAGA Trampoline Awards and Duke of Edinburgh Award

The youth work team provides a high quality Universal Service encompassing early intervention and Safeguarding. Young people can be referred to the service for engagement and intervention and we can make referrals to other specialist services as needed.

If anyone would like Youth Workers to engage with young people in their community/village/estate, please contact Sally Willox on sally.willox@wiltshire.gov.uk

Young people's issues will from time to time be brought to the Area Board to be discussed and young people will present this. A YAG, Youth Advisory Group is being implemented where Young People can help shape services and activities for them within their community and to make improvements to these, as well as raise, debate and take action on issues that affect them and or are important to them. Partners will be invited to engage in this and there is an Area Board representative. The chair of this YAG will be a nominated young person. We also strive to empower young people to participate in local forums and community groups, like the BA13 Community Partnership, so that they can be involved and represent young people.

Full Youth Work reports will be submitted to the Area Board prior to each one so that it can be included in the agenda packs and either myself or a member of staff and young people will attend Area Boards to present a verbal update and participate. I will give updates on the numbers of young people engaging with the service too as this is always very helpful.

We offer a busy programme of activities during school holidays too so the summer break will be a valuable time to engage more young people.

Regards

Sally Willox June 2013

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