

Report on Westbury AB area Youth Activities for 23-24

Westbury Youth Club at The Hub-2023 was a very successful year for the club. In addition to our usual 39 weekly sessions this year back in March we ran a 5-week cooking course from Westbury Leigh Church Hall, thanks to funding from Anchor. We held our graffiti day, the second one in two years, where we welcomed back the very talented Tom Millar and resprayed the skate ramps at Penleigh Park which was possible due to a town council grant. It was the first year the club entered the WTC Soapbox Derby, coming 8th with our young leaders being pit crew. We participated in the Countryville event which brought the Wurzels to Westbury hoping to raise much needed funds for the club. In October, for the first time, we went pumpkin picking and held a 'best carved face' competition judged by Cllr Carole King. Most recently we held an outdoor activity day run by the Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team at Round Wood, again, thanks to a town council grant. We came together with Warminster School held a silent disco for our members and a quiz night that raised £529.00. Our members also came together with Warminster members and did Spring in the Park, face painting 117 faces, raising £351.00.

We have worked with over 150 YP over the year and have held our usual Christmas, Halloween and end of term parties all made possible thanks to funding from the area board and the Wessex Water Foundation. So far this year we have worked with around 70 young people and have 30-40 young people attend each week.

Already this year we have been awarded funding to expand our provision and offer 1-2-1 support to our members and families to help with issues they may be facing which we don't have time to deal with in our weekly hour and a half session.

Fusion Youth Club- This is run for 11–14-year-olds at Bratton Baptist Church. We meet once a month on the first Friday of the month. We mostly serve Bratton youth, but others come from wider afield. We have about 20 on our books, and average around 15 at each session. We have 3 rooms open to the young people - one with games tables, one with sofas, board games and a Wii, and the other has a tuck shop - which is a very popular feature! We gather for a group activity for those who'd like to participate for 20 minutes at the end, which can include activities such as bingo, team games or a quiz.

Friday Fun Youth Club- This group meets at the All Saints Church Hall in Westbury and is supported by 4 Youth who provide 2 youth workers. Together with the young people (mainly aged between 11-13 but can go up to aged 18), volunteers and organiser they have enjoyed activities such as a games night, making pizzas and rocky road, holding a scavenger hunt in the churchyard and a treasurer hunt in the church, planting seeds, bingo, making cards for special occasions, holding quizzes, and making jewellery. Volunteers also provide mentorship to the 37 'unique' young people.