

Youth Work in the Dornoch area

October 2015 to March 2016

THE BIG HEADLINES



Youth work is an **educational** practice

It is an **empowering** process which is about

- Building self-esteem and self-confidence
- Developing the ability to manage personal and social relationships
- Creating opportunities for learning
- Building the capacity of young people to consider risk, make reasoned decisions and take control
- Having a targeted approach within a range of services for everyone
- Having FUN



Key facts and stats

The Dornoch youth work team has worked with 160 young people aged between 11 and 19 amounting to about 1000 meaningful contacts

In total there were almost 5,000 hours of engagement with young people

These were delivered on 160 separate occasions

Activities took place in Dornoch, The Academy and trips away to conferences and activities

THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

Dornoch Youth Club

Meets every Tuesday night from 7pm-9pm in Dornoch Social Club for activities chat, taster sessions of new hobbies and sports. The young people have also enjoyed over the winter months trips to Breakout Games, Roller Bowl and Cinema.

Developing the Young Work Force

Working in partnership with Dornoch Academy and the Chamber Of Commerce a business breakfast was arranged. 14 local businesses attended with 36 young people speed networking each business. Several young people have had follow up interviews for apprenticeships and employment. This will now be an annual event, to build on partnerships between youth work, school, local business and the Chamber of Commerce.

- *Local employer Adrian Green, of Treecraft Woodwork, said: "The event was very well organised and it was refreshing to view such enthusiasm from all the participants."*
- *Tina Stones, Rector of Dornoch Academy, said of the event: "This was a fantastic opportunity for our young people and local employers to network"*

Youth Philanthropy Initiative

Three teams reached the YPI final. Young people visited and researched local charities who help communities deal with social issues. This year the three charities in the final were TYKES, the young carers group; Common Ground, a youth club for young people with support needs; and ESRA, the Rescue Association.

The overall winners were the group who did a presentation for TYKES and they were able to present the winning cheque for £3000

Dornoch Branch of the Rotary Club provided runners up prizes of £200 to Common Ground and £100 to ESRA.

HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

- **Getting On** – achievements through learning

Expansion of the Developing the Young Workforce project. Further promotion of wider achievement awards including Employability Awards in partnership with Dornoch Academy and the business community.

- **Getting Heard** – confident voices, influencing decisions

Attending conferences and inviting Councillors, MPs and MSPs to hear the issues young people face in their own communities.

Empowering young people to have a voice at local decision making committees and consultations

Sutherland Youth Forum will continue to contribute to the Highland Youth Parliament and deliver its action plan to address mental health, sexual health and transport issues that affect many young people

- **Getting Involved** - youth work: it's educational

Continue the strong partnerships with Dornoch Academy and the wider community to get youth work recognised as a valuable resource in the personal, social and educational development of young people.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Business Breakfast



YPI Finalists with Judges