

Youth Work in the Glen Urquhart area

October 2015 to March 2016

Youth Work and 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 youth work team has worked with over 50 young people: this amounted to 859 meaningful contacts.

In total there were approximately 2550 hours of engagement with young people

These occurred on 66 occasions and were delivered in Drumnadrochit and Cannich.

THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

Strathglass Youth Club

This is our longest running youth club in the area. There is a lot of direct engagement from the parent committee which helps to co-ordinate the Senior youth club, along with the Junior club that they run themselves. After the village hall was remodelled in 2013 it has become a much more user friendly space for a variety of local groups to use, and with an increased number of young people in the area we hope his club will continue to grow in popularity for the young people to enjoy. The attendees are coming from an increasingly wider area and seem to enjoy the atmosphere in this established club.

Glen Urquhart Youth Club

Having suffered from large fluctuations in numbers over the last couple of years the Glen Urquhart Youth Club seems to have reached a point of stability. The young people who attend enjoy a wide range of activities each night, including access to the games hall and theatre facility in our community school. This club has been positively infused with young people travelling fair distances to attend. The young people and staff, new and old, all enjoy this interaction as it brings further community cohesion.

➤ Quote from a youngster

"I look forward to youth club at the end of the week."

➤ Quote from a partner

"We are trying to encourage more working together within the community and I feel we can in partnership together on a variety of upcoming projects."

➤ Quote from a parent

"It is the highlight of my son's week, attending youth club and it has helped him to gain confidence within his peer group."

Glen Urquhart Youth Forum

The young people who have attended our youth forum this year have been particularly busy in helping to build community relationships. They were instrumental with helping to organise and participate in our club and volunteer fair in partnership with Soirbheas (a local community charity).

They have also been active behind the scenes for our P7 transition events which have included a big Fusion night during the Easter Holidays and inclusion for P7 in our smaller youth clubs straight after Easter. Exciting times for all of us!!

HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

➤ *Getting On* – achievements through learning

Developing further channels to promote achievement awards and encourage increased participation from young people. Promotion of further achievement awards for all.

➤ *Getting Heard* – confident voices, influencing decisions

Encouraging our young people to engage further with Youth Forums and The Highland Youth Parliament.

➤ *Getting Involved* – youth work: it's educational

Increasing our knowledge on the issues that matter so we are able to address each situation in an informed manner.

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