

Youth Work in the Inverness High area

October 2015 – 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 Inverness High youth team worked with over 200 youngsters aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 2147 meaningful contacts

In total there were 3757 hours of engagement with young people

These were delivered on 140 separate occasions.

And took place in The James Cameron Centre, Inverness High School, The Jannys' House, and Merkinch Community Centre.

THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

Inverness High School Youth Forum:

Inverness High School ASG Youth Forum has grown in the last few months and now boasts 9 current members, all of whom are keen to engage and debate on any current issues. As well as helping to plan and run Fusions they are also engaged in consultations, the latest being around the issues of sexting and keeping safe online.

The Inverness High School Area Youth Clubs:

We are currently running two youth clubs a week: Merkinch which meets on a Monday at the Jannys' House and Dalneigh which runs on a Wednesday from The James Cameron Centre. Although space is very limited at The Merkinch youth club, our young people are keen to make it 'their own' and new ideas are in the pipeline:

The Inverness High School Rock Challenge Team:

Rock Challenge is an Interschool Dance Competition run by the 'Be Your Best Foundation'. This is the third year that Inverness High School has entered a team into the competition. We work with young people throughout the area to create the best performance that they can.

Quote from a parent;

"I have seen a difference in confidence over the course of the last few months; he really does appreciate someone to talk to".

Quote from a partner;

"Joint working allows us to engage with more young people that we wouldn't always have direct access to".



HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING

Getting On – achievements through learning

We are aiming to get even more young people signed up to an Award Scheme, recognising the valuable contribution they make to their communities and personal learning. Young Leaders is also on the agenda, giving more young people opportunity's to gain valuable work experience.

Getting Heard – confident voices, influencing decisions

Continue to support young people getting their voices heard at local level and Highland wide through Highland Youth Parliament and the local youth forum. Young people's involvement on these committees is able to bring about changes in their own life and the lives of others within their local school and the wider community.

Getting Involved – youth work: it's educational

Develop the strong partnership working within the IHS ASG which recognises youth work as a valuable resource in the personal, social & educational development of both the younger and older members of its community.

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