

# Youth Work in the South Lochaber 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:

The youth team has worked with over 40 young people amounting to 515 meaningful contacts.

In total there were approximately 500 hours of engagement with young people

These occurred on 34 occasions in Kinlochleven

# THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

## SOCIALIZE YOUTH GROUP

This new youth Group was the idea of young people from the Kinlochleven area. They wanted a space where they could hang out and meet up with other young people in a positive environment. Socialize currently meet every Tuesday and is a place where young people can try new things, put forward their own project ideas, have fun and relax and SOCIALISE!

➤ *Quote from young person,*

"The drum fun was a great experience and vastly improved my understanding for a positive mental wellbeing. Steve was a fantastic leader and made the whole session really enjoyable!"

## YOUTH WORK IN SCHOOL

Youth Work has been a huge success within Kinlochleven High School. With the presence of a youth development officer in the school, young people have been able to build relationships with the youth work team and have an understanding of what is available to them. Having only been in the school since November 2015, young people have been using the YDO as a resource. One major event was being asked by a young person to run an assembly on Internet Safety for the entire school. The YDO has also used local services such as the Fire Brigade to come in and cover current and up-to-date issue based discussions and workshops.

➤ *Quote from a teacher,*

"It was a very powerful assembly and it inspired much discussion in the classes. Your assembly made the teaching real, the children were shocked and I think motivated to be more careful.

Thanks again for the presentation!"

## YOUTH WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

Youth development work with any young person from 12-25Yrs. The South Lochaber YDO currently works in many ways from one to one chats with young people, sorting work placements and youth achievement awards.

➤ *Quote from a parent,*

"I am also so excited for this. It has just made my life. My son didn't know what to do or which direction to go in, I think this is going to be amazing for him and it's an unbelievably brilliant opportunity. It's the only thing he has shown any excitement for. Thank you so so much."



## HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

➤ *Getting On* – achievements through learning  
Actively building on youth achievement awards that are already in place. Creating a wider opportunity for more young people to get involved.

Recognise young people for the time and commitment they put into various projects and promote achievement awards.

➤ *Getting Heard* – confident voices, influencing decisions  
South Lochaber now has a young person representing them at Highland Youth Parliament. With this level of representation, young people from the area now have a chance for their voice and opinions to be heard Highland Wide.

There are plans to develop a local area Youth Forum to broaden the way young people can put their views across within their community.

➤ *Getting Involved* – youth work: it's educational  
To continue to build partnerships in the local area and build positive relationships between young people and various services within the area.

YDO will be extending the current reach of Youth Work provision into more rural communities in the South Lochaber Area.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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