



Youth Work in the TAIN area

April 2016 – September 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 – including the use of our local natural resources
- 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

(Pic top right – Skye Challenge- week long camp in May)



Key facts and stats

Tain youth team has worked with 75 individual young people aged between 11 and 24 amounting to about 1450 meaningful contacts.

In total there were approx. 3906 hours of engagement with young people

These were delivered on 205 separate occasions

And took place in Balintore (focus area), the Academy, and in the community with various groups.

A total of 25 recognised awards were gained.

THE STORIES: THE DIFFERENCES: THE FUTURE

Wider Achievement awards continue to be a focus, more than 100 local young people are registered with the Saltire volunteering awards and certificates are being issued regularly for those reaching various milestone hours.

Last month, local young person, Siobhan Laing was presented with a Summit Award for 500 hours volunteering at the Highland Third Sector Interface awards ceremony (pic top left). Siobhan is a real inspiration to other young people for her selfless work at school and in the community. The benefits of these awards are well documented and form a base for lifelong learning as well being able to recognise effort in a formal manner.

Partnership

In partnership with Tain Royal Academy, the engagement project at Evanton woods has now expanded this term to include not only the original attendees but another 7 pupils engaged with the project. They continue to be supported at the project and have engaged with the opportunity to develop educational, social and leadership skills. (Pic bottom right- Evanton woods project)

Giving young people a voice

A Youth Forum has been developing well recently, they range in age from 12 – 17 and have been working with the YDO to take forward some project ideas which will inform and benefit their peers. In particular, reps from the group will be developing a project with reps from Ross and Cromarty to address Young Peoples' mental health issues. (Pic bottom left – some Forum member's teambuilding day)

➤ Quote from a youngster

"The youth Forum gives me the chance to have a say in things that affect me"



➤ Quote from a partner

"The Evanton woods project is providing the chance for many young people who need to develop individual skills through a quality programme"

HOW'S THE FUTURE LOOKING?

➤ Getting On – achievements through learning

Continued promotion of wider achievement awards – many of these are SQA accredited awards. (lifelong learning)

➤ Getting Heard – confident voices, influencing decisions

Developing a local and area youth forum, promoting what they do and helping them gain skills to be an effective voice for their peers.

Youth Forum will also contribute to the Highland Youth Parliament campaigns to do with political engagement, mental health, transport, PSE and Looked After Children.

➤ Getting Involved – youth work: it's educational

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

Building on the success of Balintore youth club and developing further projects for the Seaboard villages.

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