



THE CORE

Youth and Community Centre

Youth Work Quarterly Report

Saltash Town Council Youth Work Funding

June – August 2026

*Reporting on the first quarter of Saltash Town Council's
£50,000 per year, three-year investment in youth work*



1. Introduction

The Core Youth and Community Centre provides a safe, welcoming and nurturing environment for young people in Saltash. Our youth work offer combines open access provision, targeted activities, individual support, positive activities and partnership working, with young people's voices at the heart of how our services develop.

This quarterly report covers the period June to September 2026 and highlights the progress, activities and early impact of Saltash Town Council's significantly increased investment in youth work at The Core.

2. Planning for the Future – A Significant Investment in Saltash's Young People

This quarter marks an incredibly important milestone for The Core. From June 2026, Saltash Town Council significantly increased its commitment to youth provision in the town, awarding The Core £50,000 per year for three years – a total investment of £150,000.

This level of long-term support is transformational for The Core. Following the financial uncertainty experienced previously, having three years of committed funding provides us with stability and, importantly, the ability to plan confidently for the future.

Rather than operating from one short-term funding opportunity to the next, we can now take a more strategic approach to developing our youth work. We can retain experienced and trusted youth workers, strengthen our existing provision, respond to emerging needs and develop new opportunities for young people in Saltash.

The funding also enables us to continue providing preventative youth work. By offering young people safe spaces, positive activities and access to trusted adults at an early stage, we can often provide support before difficulties escalate and require more intensive intervention.

Saltash Town Council's investment is not being viewed simply as funding to maintain what we already do. It provides a strong foundation from which we can grow our services, attract additional funding, strengthen partnerships and increase the range of opportunities available to young people.

3. Early Impact of Saltash Town Council Investment

Investment / Development	Early Impact
£50,000 annual funding secured for three years	Greater financial stability and the ability to plan youth services strategically.
Additional Youth Support Worker	Increased staffing capacity at the busy Junior Youth Club, enabling more meaningful engagement and safer, higher-quality provision.
Additional Grub Club group	Targeted provision for young people who are home educated or attending school part-time; the successful pilot has continued and both groups are full this term.
Summer activities programme	145 young people accessed activities, centre-based provision, food and day trips during the school holidays.



Strengthened partnership work	Young people accessing the Educational Support Programme are increasingly connecting with other Core activities and one-to-one youth work support.
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4. Clubs and Activities

Grub Club – Expanding Our Offer

As a direct result of the increased funding, we have been able to establish an additional Grub Club group focused on young people who are home educated or attending school on a part-time timetable. The pilot scheme was a significant success and demonstrated a clear need for this type of provision.

We are delighted that both Grub Club groups are again fully booked for the current term. The sessions provide much more than cooking tuition: young people develop practical life skills, independence, confidence, communication and teamwork while socialising with peers in a relaxed and supportive environment.

For young people who may have fewer opportunities to socialise through school, this targeted group offers an important sense of connection and belonging.

Open Access Youth Work – Junior Youth Club

Our Junior Youth Club continues to be one of our busiest sessions. During the summer term, young people particularly enjoyed being outside for sports and games, which are always popular and provide opportunities to be active, work as a team and build friendships.

The increased Town Council funding has enabled us to employ an additional Youth Support Worker for this busy evening. This has strengthened our frontline team and means staff have more opportunity to engage meaningfully with individual young people, respond to additional needs and provide a wider range of activities.

The informal conversations that happen during open access youth work are often where young people begin to share worries, seek advice or ask for help. Having sufficient experienced staff available is therefore central to the quality and preventative value of these sessions.

Senior Youth Club

Our Senior Youth Club continues to offer young people aged 13–18 a safe and welcoming space to meet friends, take part in sports and games, access food and spend time with trusted youth workers. The open access nature of the session allows relationships to develop over time and provides young people with support when they need it.

Climbing Club

Climbing Club continues to provide a positive activity for children and young people aged 5–18. Sessions encourage confidence, resilience, problem-solving and physical activity, with young people able to challenge themselves in a supportive environment using our indoor climbing wall.



Boxing Club

The boxing provision based at The Core continues to offer young people a structured activity that promotes fitness, discipline, confidence and self-esteem. It remains an important part of the range of opportunities available to young people using the centre.

Craft Club

Craft Club continues to provide a smaller, relaxed after-school environment where young people can learn new creative skills, spend time with friends and access informal support from youth workers.

Just Be You

Just Be You continues to provide a welcoming and inclusive space where young people can build friendships, express themselves and access trusted support. Maintaining targeted provision alongside our open access sessions remains an important part of ensuring that young people with different needs can find a space in which they feel comfortable and valued.

5. Summer Activities Programme

The summer holidays were an extremely busy period at The Core, with 145 young people accessing our summer activities programme.

The programme included day trips to local theme parks and attractions alongside activities at the centre. We also provided food during our centre-based sessions, helping to ensure that young people could access positive, affordable opportunities throughout the school holidays.

The programme enabled young people to spend time with friends, try new experiences, remain active and maintain contact with trusted youth workers during the long summer break. For young people who may experience isolation or have limited opportunities during the holidays, maintaining these relationships and routines can be particularly valuable.

6. Educational Support Programme and Partnership Working

Our partnership with the Educational Support Programme has continued to go from strength to strength. The programme supports young people who are home educated, attending school on reduced or part-time timetables, or who are finding mainstream education difficult.

Many of the young people accessing the programme have Special Educational Needs (SEN), have experienced bullying, or are struggling to cope within a mainstream school setting. The smaller and more supportive environment provides an important alternative for these young people.

The Core works closely alongside the programme to ensure that young people have access to wider youth work opportunities and support. We are seeing young people who initially attend for education subsequently accessing several other groups and activities at The Core. This provides additional opportunities for social interaction, confidence building, positive relationships and community participation.

Young people attending the programme can also access one-to-one support from our youth workers. This partnership approach means that educational support does not sit in isolation; young people can build relationships with trusted adults and access wider help when difficulties arise.



7. One-to-One Youth Work and Saltash Community School

Our continued partnership with Saltash Community School remains an important aspect of our work. We continue to provide one-to-one youth work support to individual young people within the school, offering a confidential space to talk with an experienced youth worker.

This work provides early help for young people who may be experiencing difficulties with education, relationships, confidence, emotional wellbeing or other challenges. It also creates an important bridge between school and community-based youth work, allowing young people to become familiar with the wider activities and support available at The Core.

The relationships developed through this work are a key part of our preventative approach and demonstrate the value of youth workers being accessible to young people in the places where they already spend their time.

8. Youth Voice and Youth Committee

Keeping young people at the heart of everything we do remains fundamental to our approach. Our Youth Committee provides an important opportunity for young people to have a genuine voice in the development of The Core and the services we provide.

Committee members are encouraged to share their views, suggest activities and improvements, contribute to decision-making and help shape future provision. Their involvement helps us ensure that our youth work remains relevant and responsive to what young people in Saltash actually want and need.

The Youth Committee also gives members opportunities to develop confidence, leadership skills, responsibility and a greater sense of ownership of their youth centre. As our services develop over the three-year funding period, we are committed to strengthening youth participation further and ensuring young people continue to influence the direction of our work.

9. Partnership Working

Partnership working remains central to our ability to provide effective support. Our relationships with Saltash Town Council, Saltash Community School, Safer Saltash, Police, Early Help team, Saltash Youth Network the Educational Support Programme and other local and countywide services enable us to identify needs, share opportunities and connect young people and families with appropriate support.

Having a strong network around young people means that The Core can provide preventative support while also recognising when specialist or additional help is required. We will continue to strengthen these partnerships throughout the three-year funding period.

10. Outcomes and Evidence of Impact

During this quarter, the clearest evidence of impact has included:

- 145 young people accessing our summer activities programme.
- A successful pilot and continuation of an additional Grub Club for young people who are home educated or attending school part-time.



- Both Grub Club groups being fully booked for the current term.
- An additional Youth Support Worker employed to strengthen delivery at the busy Junior Youth Club.
- Young people from the Educational Support Programme progressing into other activities and groups at The Core.
- Continued access to one-to-one youth work support both through The Core and our partnership with Saltash Community School.
- Young people continuing to influence provision through our Youth Committee.

Alongside participation figures, we will continue to capture young people's experiences, progression and individual outcomes so that the impact of Saltash Town Council's investment can be demonstrated throughout the three-year funding period.

11. Value for Money and Sustainability

Saltash Town Council's investment is enabling The Core to move from short-term financial uncertainty towards sustainable, planned youth provision. The funding is supporting both the continuation of established services and the development of additional provision in response to identified need.

Importantly, the three-year commitment gives us the confidence to invest in our workforce and plan services over a longer period. The appointment of an additional Youth Support Worker and expansion of Grub Club are already tangible examples of how the funding is increasing both the capacity and quality of our youth work.

The Town Council's support also provides a strong foundation from which The Core can seek complementary grant funding and partnership opportunities, helping us maximise the value and reach of the investment.

12. Looking Ahead

The period from June to September represents the beginning of an exciting new chapter for The Core. Our priority over the coming months is to build on the strong start made during this first quarter of the new funding agreement.

We will continue to develop targeted opportunities for young people who are home educated or struggling within mainstream education, maintain strong open access provision, strengthen youth voice and participation, and ensure that individual young people can access trusted support when they need it.

We will also continue to monitor attendance, participation, individual outcomes, volunteering, progression and feedback so that we can demonstrate clearly how the investment is benefiting young people and the wider Saltash community.

13. Conclusion

Saltash Town Council's commitment of £50,000 per year for three years is a significant investment in the young people of Saltash and in the long-term sustainability of professional youth work within the town.



The impact is already visible. During this first reporting period we have expanded targeted provision, strengthened our staff team, delivered a successful summer programme reaching 145 young people, continued vital one-to-one work, and strengthened pathways between education support and wider youth provision.

Most importantly, the funding gives The Core the stability to plan ahead while keeping young people at the centre of our decisions. We are extremely grateful to Saltash Town Council for its confidence in The Core and for recognising the value of accessible, preventative and relationship-based youth work.

We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with the Town Council over the next three years and to demonstrating the difference this investment makes to young people, families and the wider Saltash community.