

The Core Youth Project
End of year report to Saltash Town Council – February 2023

Our mission statement is;

‘The Core aims to provide young people with opportunities and activities which help build positive relationships, strengthen and develop self esteem/confidence and empower them to have a positive impact on their community’

What the money has been spent on and what has been delivered.

The money that Saltash Town Council awarded The Core Youth Project continues to employ our Youth Work Coordinator who manages and develops the youth provision at the centre. We have a staff team of 1 full time youth worker, 4 part time Youth Support Workers and 1 Trainee Youth Worker which has enabled us to continue to a wide variety of youth work sessions. The following projects are funded by STC and the match funding we have secured from other grants.

The following sessions are offered weekly at The Core for young people;

Open Access Youth Sessions

Senior club for 13-18 year olds every Monday evening 7-9pm

Junior club for 11-13 year olds every Thursday evening 6.30-8.30pm

Grub Club

Cooking workshop every Monday 3.15-5pm (Years 7-13)

Craft Club

Arts and crafts workshop every Thursday 3.15-4.30pm (Years 7-13)

Just be You

LGBT+ support and social group every Monday 3.15-4.30pm

Home Education Group

First Monday of the month 10.30-12.30pm for parents and children who are home educated.

Climbing Club – Every Wednesday and Friday 3.45-6.30pm for children aged 5-18

Saltash Amateur Boxing Club – Every Wednesday and Sunday evening

We currently offer positive activities for young people 5 afternoons/evening of the week.

Match funding

iWill Fund - £5120

Waitrose - £975

Coop Local causes fund - £4292

Police and Crime Commissioner - £4997

Total = £15 384 + subscriptions from youth club sessions.

In house funding

- Weekly subscriptions for youth club
- Revenue from room hire at the centre – Approx. £25,000 per year. Whilst this money is essentially raised to pay for the general running costs and other staffing costs, it does show that we are bringing in revenue to help keep the centre open for both the community and the young people.
- Fundraising and donations – We hold regular events for families, craft fairs, toddler group and our community cafe which all help to bring in much needed revenue.

Outcomes and outputs achieved

Total current number of members at The Core = 240

Number of open access sessions delivered 2020/21 = 144

Plus 54 sessions which are booking only.

Number of young people receiving individual support = 21

Number of young people helped back in to employment, training or work = 6

Number of youth volunteer hours worked = 800-900 hours over the last year.

Youth Work

It has been the first full year where we have not had to adhere to any covid guidance and have had the opportunity to open up sessions fully and increase our numbers.

We have never seen our session as busy as they are presently and this is evidence that young people need places to go and socialise and take part in activities. It is essential that youth centre's continue to open their doors and provide professional youth work, a safe and non-judgmental space, advice and information and most importantly...fun!

Our mission is to offer young people not only a safe space to meet and socialise but also a range of support and activities to keep them healthy and happy and

ensure that we make our programme diverse and interesting. Our programme offers; Cooking courses, Craft club, a range of sporting activities; to include boxing and climbing clubs, LGBTQ+ support group, 1:1 advice and guidance, Sexual health advice, training and volunteering opportunities; to include a youth committee.

We offer various opportunities for young people to volunteer and have a committed team who regularly help at our Junior Youth Club and LGBTQ+ group and also our Youth Committee who we support to organise their own fundraising activities and also continue to ensure that young people stay central to the work that we do and their voices are heard.

A vast majority of the young people who attend our sessions have experienced difficulties at school, have chaotic and sometimes unsafe home lives, are young carers, suffer with mental health problems, such as anxiety, low mood or self harm, are transgender or questioning their sexuality, have experienced bullying, are looked after children, suffer with autism/aspergus syndrome or have a disability (learning or physical) or are just finding the transition from childhood to adulthood difficult and need some support.

We work with a great deal of young people who have been through traumatic events in their lives and are experiencing a complexity of problems, by providing them with a safe space to come and access to professionally trained youth workers they have begun to increase in confidence and develop as individuals. We have seen an increase in young people requiring specialist support from agencies such as CAMHS and the Early Help Team due to their poor mental health, especially amongst our LGBTQ+ group.

Our Youth Work Coordinator is a qualified Trauma Informed practitioner which has helped in supporting those young people with more complex needs.

Our successful partnership working with a range of outside agencies and local organisations has meant that we are able to offer more opportunities and activities for the young people we work with. We continue to work closely with Safer Saltash, Saltash Community School, Intercom Trust, Early Help Team and Social Care, Police, Saltash Health Centre, Young People Cornwall, Saltash Town Youth Council and local town events.

We hope it is evident from this report that the funding which we receive from Saltash Town Council is essential in enabling us to continue to provide and develop a professional and innovative service to the young people of Saltash and the surrounding villages.

End of Report