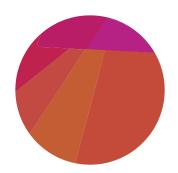


UK YOUTH

Annual Review 2017





UK Youth helped me to see my potential at a time I needed it the most. I'm so grateful for the support and opportunities I've been provided with by UK Youth to build on my interests and skills"

Luke, The Big Music Project

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UK YOUTH

Our vision

All young people are **empowered to build bright futures**, whatever their background or circumstances.

Our mission

To provide access to appropriate, high quality services for young people in every community.

At the heart of all our work are these three core values:

We work with young people on their terms

We are committed to working in partnership

We advocate on behalf of young people and the sector

From our CEO

With over 840,000 young people in our network, we know that the right support at the right point in life can enable a young person to develop the skills they need to overcome barriers and reach their potential.

Over the last twelve months, we've conducted a large impact study into the types of young people in our network, the barriers they face and the effect participating in a UK Youth programme has on them. Over half of these young people reported that they lived in some of the most deprived areas of the UK and 77% reported facing at least one barrier to progressing. These barriers included coming from a low income family, not in education, employment or training (NEET) or having special educational needs (SEN).

The results of the study underscored the unique value of youth services in helping young people to overcome these barriers and build bright futures. Last year almost 100,000 young people benefited from a UK Youth programme through their local UK Youth Member or online. 88% of those participating in one of our programmes reported improved life skills.

These included becoming more motivated, self-aware, receptive, resilient, responsible, confident, and better at communicating, as well as doubling their confidence to code,

building their CV writing expertise and gaining crucial financial and job searching abilities.

Such consistently good outcomes can only be achieved through tireless partnerships working between local, regional and national organisations. Our tried and tested delivery model is therefore based on collaboration with young people, the vibrant and diverse youth services in our member network, local and national government and corporate partners.

Our belief that the youth sector is stronger together underpins everything we do, and it was a key driver for the merger between UK Youth and Ambition – two long established charities with a shared commitment to supporting young people. In addition to this key success, this year we have also disbursed £4.8 million back into the sector, strengthened and grown our membership and increased the number of young people visiting our outdoor centre, Avon Tyrrell, in the heart of the New Forest.

We've launched three new programmes and redesigned a further three to meet the changing needs of young people and the organisations supporting them.

All of these address needs identified by our membership



and were co-created with young people, our membership and funders.

We've updated our UK Youth Achievement Awards to recognise and celebrate the achievements of young people and launched our Safe Spaces framework to provide an accreditation to promote and recognise good safeguarding practices.

Our research proves the value of youth services in supporting young people through their social development journey, empowering them with life skills to help them positively engage with training, volunteering and employment, and ultimately gain independence. After conducting this research, we strongly believe that the best way to improve Britain's social mobility is by helping more young people access appropriate, high quality services in their community or online.

Anna Smee, CEO, UK Youth

The need

Young people are facing increased barriers to gaining independence.



Number of young people planning to go to university fell to lowest level in eight years Sutton Trust 2017 Young
people are
50% less likely to own
a home at the age of 30
than previous generations
Resolution Foundation 2017



Millennials may be the first to **earn less** than the previous generation

Resolution Foundation 2017

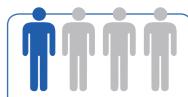


Overall wellbeing

of young people in the UK has dropped to its lowest level ever

Prince's Trust Youth Index 2017 Young people living in areas of low social mobility in the UK report lower emotional and social capabilities than those from socially mobile areas

UK Youth 2016/17 impact data



1 in 4 children show some evidence of mental ill health

Young Minds 2016

Young people from low-income homes with similar GCSEs to their better-off classmates are 1/3 more likely to drop out of education at 16

Social Mobility
Commission 2016

800,000

young people (16-24) are not in education, employment or training (NEET)

Office for National Statistics 2017

MI

A child living in one of England's most disadvantaged areas is

27 times more likely to go to an inadequate school

State of the Nation Report, Social Mobility Commission 2016

Just 5% of children eligible for **free school meals** gain five A grades at GCSE

State of the Nation Report, Social Mobility Commission 2016

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Our 2020 aim

By 2020, our aim is to create a movement of youth organisations committed to supporting young people from all backgrounds and circumstances to build bright futures. Together we will ensure access to appropriate, high quality services for all young people in every community.

To achieve our 2020 aim. we have set three goals:



Young people can access support in their community or online

We will help achieve this by...

- » Promoting the positive impact of youth services to unlock funding and support
- » Working with local service providers to ensure they are sustainable and effective
- » Supporting young people on a social development journey that equips them for life
- » Striving for appropriate safeguarding and quality standards across youth services
- » Providing online support for young people



Young people develop life skills

We will help achieve this by...

- » Delivering world-class skills development programmes to young people, empowering them to become motivated, self-aware, receptive, resilient, responsible, confident and good communicators
- » Supporting young people to develop the skills they aspire to have, whether that be learning to code, climb, cook or coach
- » Collating evidence of what works to inform service design
- » Recognising young people's achievements through the **UK Youth Achievement** Awards (UKYAAs)



Young people can engage with training, volunteering or employment

We will help achieve this by...

- » Incorporating training, volunteering or employment opportunities into all skills development programmes
- » Supporting young people to understand the range of pathways available
- » Proactively engage **NEET** young people aged between 18-25
- » Brokering relationships between young people and employers

IN ACTION

18 year old Connor had a difficult start in life - both of his parents were frequent drug and alcohol abusers; he was disengaged at school and often absent from lessons.

Connor's local youth club offered him the opportunity to meet a group of young people who had

similar problems to him. He felt supported to take part in several UK Youth programmes and developed life skills like resilience, confidence and self-awareness.

Thanks to his local UK Youth member. Connor has re-engaged with education, completing his Level 3 Health and Social Care college course. In Connor's own words:

"UK Youth has allowed me to learn and develop skills and take part in things that interest me. Most importantly, I feel more confident in supporting others, helping out in my local community and becoming a leader."

Our work in numbers

840,000 young people were supported by our members in 2016/17

We work with young people from across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.



Last year we spent

£4.8 million

on direct delivery work to young people across our network:





Who we reach Location We work with young people Gender in both rural and urban areas. 65% Our young Our work in rural 56% people are fairly areas is slightly higher evenly split than the national 35% between genders. population average. **Deprivation** Age Through our national come from the programmes, we work primarily 30% most deprived with 8-25 year olds. Our data 18% suggests the majority of young areas in the UK people we supported last year came from the 14-17 age bracket We are successfully reaching those but also shows a high variation in 11% from deprived areas. Our programmes the age groups that we reach. disproportionately reach young people from deprived areas of the UK. 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

The barriers they face



The majority of young people we support face at least one personal barrier to progressing. These barriers were reported by youth workers on behalf of their young people, therefore we can confidently assume that this is an underestimate as less 'obvious' barriers would be underreported.

The most common personal barriers faced by young people were:



Low income family



Not in employment, education or training (NEET)



Special education needs (SEN)



Young carer



Mental health challenges

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How we reach young people



Through our delivery model, we are able to support and enhance local youth services by:

Understanding and building on the strengths and needs of young people



Offering support and advice to youth service providers



Running world-class skills development programmes for young people



The young people we work with are encouraged and supported to get involved with UK Youth voluntarily. They typically find out about us through the local youth organisations in our network, their friends and family, the UK Youth staff team, or via referral partners (including schools, social services, the police, the NHS, and other local service providers).

Measuring impact and sharing learnings



Influencing policy and funding to **prioritise** services for young people



Our theory of change

Our vision

Young people are empowered to build bright futures, whatever their background or circumstances

Our mission

Access to appropriate, high quality services for young people in every community

Our goals

Young people can access support in their local community and online

Young people become motivated, self-aware, receptive, resilient, responsible, confident and **good communicators**

Young people can engage with training, volunteering and employment

Our values

The UK Youth Social Development Journey

Get involved Social engagement

Grow and learn Social learning

Give back Social action Gain independence Social leadership

Work with young people. Work in partnership. Advocate for young people.

Our model

- 1: Understand and build on the strengths and needs of young people
- 2: Offer support and advice to youth service providers
- 3: Run world-class skills development programmes for young people
- 4: Measure impact and share learnings
- 5: Influence policy and funding to prioritise services for young people

Who we work with

Young people	National partners	Youth workers & volunteers
Supporters	UK Youth team	Referral partners

Who we support

Young people in the UK, aged 8-25, often from disadvantaged backgrounds

UK Youth Social Development Journey

Through the UK Youth Social Development Journey we aim to support and empower young people to access appropriate services in their community, develop life skills and positively engage with education, training, volunteering and employment.

> Social learning Grow and learn

engagement Get involved

Social

Provide a safe space to go (physically or online)

Deliver fun and engaging activities appealing to young people

Act as a catalyst for new ideas and experiences

Engage young people with the **community** and politics

Provide access to local, national and international programmes

Signpost further opportunities to develop and learn

Provide access to scholarships and grants for training and education

Social action

Give back

Provide access to opportunities for volunteering and supporting the community

Support to take part in **community** improvement initiatives

Empower to be involved in community action and political engagement

Fund and support young people to set up new social enterprise and community action initiatives

Provide training on the world of work, employment and entrepreneurship

Social

leadership

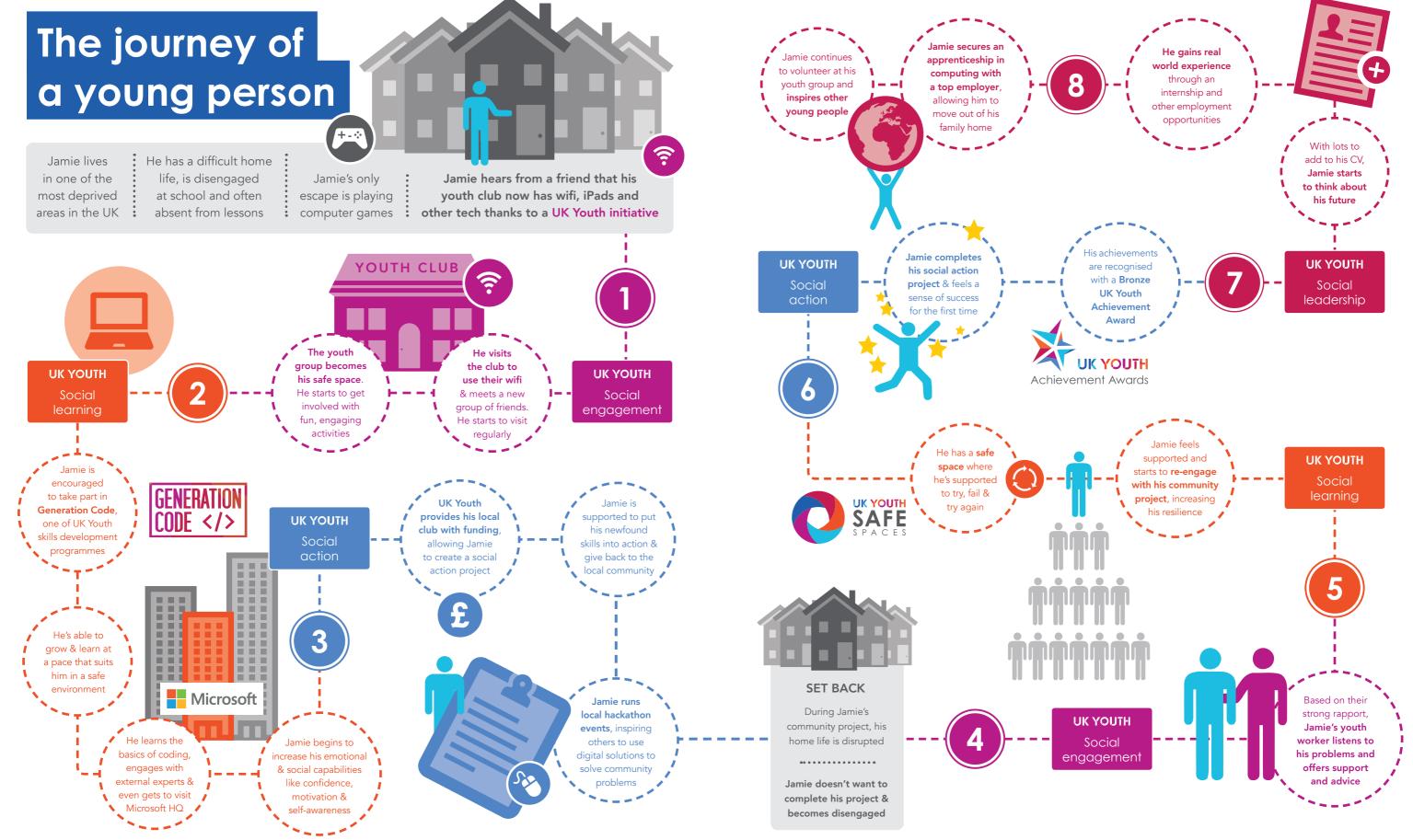
Gain independence

Provide access to real world experiences (speakers, internships, traineeships, apprenticeships and employment opportunities)

> Provide a safe space to prepare for work or undertake paid

for employment

Provide seed funding, grants and investment to support entrepreneurial ventures



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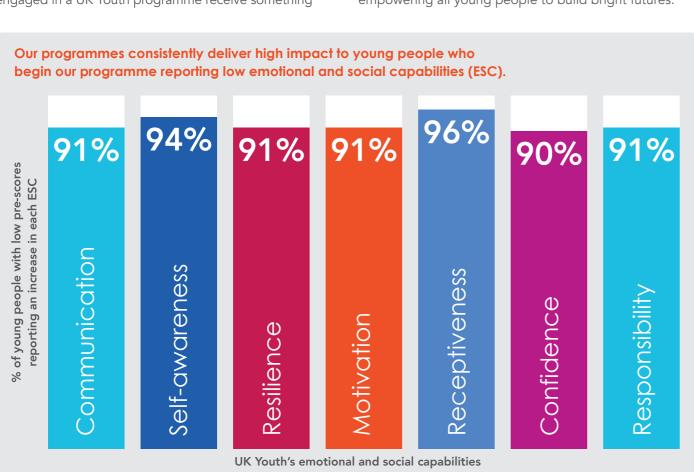
Emotional and social capabilities

All of UK Youth's programmes are designed with a clear understanding of the learning and outcomes we hope young people will achieve.

In addition to these outcomes, young people also have the opportunity to form positive relationships with peers; learn from and build trust with supportive role models and caring adults; challenge themselves and step outside of their comfort zone; broaden horizons and raise aspirations, and achieve things they might not have previously thought possible.

It is through these experiences that young people engaged in a UK Youth programme receive something even more valuable than programme specific skills and knowledge; they gain the attitudes and self-belief that they will be able to reach their potential.

At UK Youth these skills are called 'emotional and social capabilities'. All of our programmes measure young people's pre and post emotional and social capabilities to ensure we're creating impact and empowering all young people to build bright futures.





UK Youth's world-class skills development programmes

UK Youth has established a strong reputation for delivering high quality, large scale skills development programmes for young people from predominantly disadvantaged backgrounds. From outdoor learning to money management, we reach and engage young people who don't traditionally have access to these personal development opportunities.

We respond to feedback from young people and service providers to develop programmes that meet their needs by providing:

- » Content
- » Project management
- » Facilities and equipment
- » Training
- » Subject matter experts
- » Local funding

Over the next three years, we will prioritise delivery that benefits young people from areas of high deprivation, low levels of social mobility, or poor access to services. In a low funding environment, we recognise the importance of deploying resources wisely.

Our focus will be on delivering activities in areas where they will have the greatest positive impact on young lives. Where there is little or no local provision, we will catalyse and support innovative community initiatives to address the gap.



We will also continue to offer a social curriculum that is co-created with young people and linked to our social development journey, delivering activities in five key interest areas to ensure there is something for every young person:

Arts: music, media, art, design, drama & dance



STEM: science, technology, engineering & mathematics



Wellbeing: sport, nutrition, physical & mental health



Enterprise: finance, management, business, economics, employability & entrepreneurship



Citizenship: politics, geography, philosophy, history, travel & environment



The Big Music Project (TBMP) is all about empowering young people through the power of music.

In partnership with Global and with funding from the Big Lottery Fund, we work with the biggest brands in music, breaking barriers by creating and highlighting the best opportunities in the creative industry for young people across the UK, running everything from training schemes and careers advice to work experience, internships and hands-on skills building projects.



Amy uses British Sign Language to communicate and has struggled with confidence when communicating her ideas and thoughts in front of others.

Amy took part in TBMP and worked with a group of young people to choreograph a sign dance. She taught other young people to sign and learnt to communicate effectively with others. During the programme, Amy built up the confidence to perform this dance, with her new friends.

In Amy's own words, "The Big Music Project made me see that I am not an outsider and that people really want to help and learn. From this experience I am looking at my future as becoming an interpreter or working with young people with disabilities."





"This project has inspired me to not give up on my dream of living a creative and joyful life and motivated me to be more confident"

"I now feel confident to apply for jobs in production companies or festivals and working on writing and film-making"

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STEM

Generation Code addresses the lack of digital skills in young people, empowering them to become digital creators in an ever-changing global society.

In partnership with Microsoft and UK Youth, Generation Code provides coding opportunities to people aged 11-19.

The national programme is led by Code Champions aged 16-25 with no coding experience. The Code Champions are trained to take the lead on delivering regular coding activities to younger people in their area. Using micro:bit technology, Generation Code will help nearly 10,000 young people across the UK to get creative with code, bringing coding to life as they make all sorts of cool creations, from robots to musical instruments – the possibilities are endless.

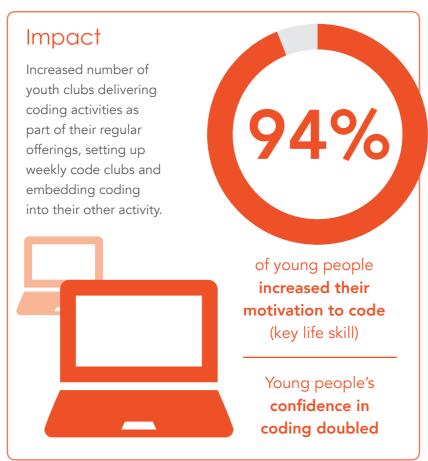
Case study

UK Youth member Youth Federation, had limited experience of delivering coding programmes prior to Generation Code and has now 'become the go-to charity in Cheshire for coding and cyber safety', securing £28,000 from East Cheshire Council to develop its work in the region.

Matthew, a youth worker, said:

"Generation Code enabled us to increase our numbers and upskill young people"





"At school I did some coding and didn't enjoy it, but this was cool!"

"After seeing the engagement and enthusiasm at the Generation Code session, I didn't have a choice but to take it back to run at our club!"

Wellbeing

Active Youth is a two-year programme, dedicated to getting young people aged 14 to 25 involved in physical activity.

The programme is funded by Sport England and the FA and is delivered by UK Youth in some of the most deprived areas of England including Cumbria, Leicestershire, Chester West and the Wirral.

Active Youth inspires over 2,500 young people who are currently not undertaking any regular exercise to become more active. Working alongside regional youth associations, local youth clubs and local authorities, UK Youth engages currently inactive young people to become Ambassadors and deliver a six-session 'get active' course to their peers.

Funding

Active Youth provides funding for clubs to purchase equipment, from boxing gloves, footballs and exercise bikes, to circus equipment and dancing ribbons. Clubs now have equipment and resources that can be used by local young people and other organisations, which means that activities can carry on past the life of the programme, creating a sustainable model.

A youth worker said: "Active Youth has enabled us to enhance our professional relationships with local partners and we have had two new clubs join [our membership] as a result of delivering the UK Youth programme"



Impact

Through Active Youth, we've found that young people who are disengaged with physical activity are likely to have lower emotional and social capabilities. This points to the social benefits of sport.

66%

increased their enjoyment and likelihood of participating in sport

"All our young people have carried on taking part in physical activity at the club"

"I was a bit nervous to lead the sessions at first but once I explained what we had to do, it was easy. I would like to think one day I could coach"

"Taking part in this programme was the best decision I've ever made!"

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Enterprise

Money for Life inspires young people to make the most of their money.

Funded by Lloyds Banking Group, Money for Life provides young people with the skills they need to manage their money, feel confident and start talking openly about their finances.

Case study

Sam is 23 and has been out of work for 12 months. Prior to this he embarked upon a qualification in Business Studies. He did not complete the course, but amassed £6,000 worth of student debt during the time he studied. In addition to this, from the age of 18 he started to take out pay day loans and opened a credit card. Before taking part in Money for Life, he had not paid back any of his debt and admitted he had tried to forget about it.

During the Money Masterclass he demonstrated a clear understanding of the risks attached to poor money management.

After the session, Sam told his youth worker about the debt. He referred back to the Money for Life sessions and said that they made him rethink his approach. After discussing how to deal with the debt, Sam has agreed to attend a meeting at the Citizen's Advice Bureau who will help him to deal with the debt in a positive way.



Impact

Money for Life has seen the biggest increase in emotional and social capabilities from those who are at high risk of financial exclusion.



of young people have reported increases in their emotional &

social capabilities

65%

"There is so much we do not get taught in school which is really important to know"

"As a single mother I learned how to budget better"

"It taught me about budgeting and has given me confidence for the future"

Citizenship



Change Squad inspires young people to give back to their local communities.

The programme provides over 150 Change Squad teams with funding to enable them to start their social action journey. Through the programme, young people are empowered to create, develop and deliver inspiring projects that they believe address local issues – helping them to grow, learn and practice vital life skills and have a voice in their community.

About the young people

- » 91% were either living in areas of deprivation or in rural areas
- » 66% faced at least one personal barrier

Case study

Sunderland City Council proposed a 100% reduction in youth services across the city.

The young people at a local UK Youth member youth club, Youth Almighty Project, formed a Change Squad to urge the council to reconsider their proposal. Altogether 3,000 signatories were collected from across the city in just five days. The petition along with an emotive video was presented to the council who promised to do everything they could to find the funding. Subsequently Sunderland City Council promised £100,000 for youth activities across the county.

Impact 90%

said they would

recommend their

friends to take

part in a Change

Squad project

youth-led social action projects funded

151



84%

found their project **enjoyable**



80% said they had the chance to **lead and shape their project**

"Being a part of something that gives you the opportunity to change something for the better is an amazing experience and it should be experienced by others"

"Many of our young people have asked to be a Squad Leader if we run future projects – that alone shows a great outcome"

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UK Youth Voice (UKYV) is at the heart of everything we do at UK Youth. Our National Board is formed of a group of young people aged 16-25 from our member network, who represent every region and nation of the UK.

Through UKYV, young people are provided with a platform to amplify the views of young people and the opportunity to get involved with policy work, fundraising and programme design, as well as feeding into the direction of UK Youth.

Youth engagement is embedded in all our work and we support our members to involve young people in decision making in their youth organisations and in their wider community.

Case study

After the EU Referendum, UK Youth Voice members undertook extensive research with young people from across the UK to identify the issues affecting young people.

The manifesto outlined five policy calls:

- 1: Make youth services a priority public service
- 2: Enable every young person to take an active role in democracy
- 3: Provide all young people with equal access to high quality education
- 4: End discrimination, prejudice and hate crime towards young people
- 5: Protect environmental standards

The Youth Voice Manifesto was presented to the Prime Minister at No. 10 and has received widespread, cross-party support.



Impact

92%

regional young UKYV representatives

Over **9,000** young people engaged over social media

UKYV members agreed that **this** experience would help them get a job





Avon Tyrrell is our leading outdoor centre in the heart of the New Forest, dedicated to the continuous development of young people. The unique and beautiful site featuring a Grade I listed calendar house and 65 acres of land has successfully provided outdoor learning opportunities to over 30,000 visitors this year.

The historic centre creates adventures that enable young people to build bright futures, leaving them with incredible memories and essential life skills. Through outdoor learning, tailored programmes, apprenticeships and traineeships, disability and wellbeing weekends and bursary schemes, Avon Tyrrell recognises and rewards achievements made outside the classroom, providing the opportunity for everyone to experience, learn and develop.

Dulverton Trust Wellbeing Weekends

with funding from Dulverton Trust, to enable over 100 of themselves, adopt a more positive attitude and believe in their own potential. Working with experienced programme facilitators, young people engaged in a variety of outdoor activities and workshops designed to build their confidence,

In a youth worker's own words, they said: "The impact of the trip was phenomenal. The young people have grown in confidence and it has meant that I have been able to build relationships with them for the first time. It is so important that these opportunities are still available for those vulnerable groups of young people"



Our apprenticeship programme at Avon Tyrrell provides young people with hands on learning, giving young people the skills and recognised qualifications they need to succeed in the outdoor industry.

Our apprenticeships go beyond the basic framework, providing additional training and qualifications to ensure these young apprentices have the skills and qualifications for future careers beyond Avon Tyrrell.



Case study

When Leah joined the UK Youth apprenticeship programme at Avon Tyrrell, she had no nationally recognised formal qualifications, she was very quiet and was experiencing a number of personal difficulties.

Leah has worked hard to overcome these and has used the challenges she has faced throughout her apprenticeship, to grow into a confident member of the group, whose character is humorous, respected and engaging. Leah has grown into a competent instructor and it has been a pleasure to see her progress on her journey.

Leah now has a portfolio of qualifications to support her natural instructing style. She has also progressed to a higher apprenticeship at Avon Tyrrell as an Outdoor Instructor.

Impact

Our past apprentices have gone on to become teachers, tree surgeons, trainers and even business owners. We have provided them with that platform.

of our staff workforce at Avon Tyrrell are currently undergoing an apprenticeship

We have a **pass rate** of almost

"This apprenticeship has been a fantastic opportunity, providing me with a pathway to a better life, a community among my colleagues and friendships for life. It also provides great qualifications and life skills. Overall a very worthwhile and positive opportunity"

disadvantaged young people to gain a better understanding

26 UK YOUTH ANNUAL REVIEW 2017 27 A note from our Chair

On behalf of UK Youth, I would like to extend my warmest gratitude for the continued support of our Board of Trustees, our incredible and hardworking employees, and the supporters and volunteers who continually champion our cause.

Thank you to our Nation Partners and network of member organisations for their tireless work to support young people in their local communities.

I would also like to thank our Patron, HRH The Princess Royal as well as our dedicated President, Nigel Mansell CBE.

Thank you to all of the organisations and individuals who contribute crucial funding and in-kind support that significantly increases the impact of our work. With special thanks to the Gala **Dinner Committee** as well as the Art for Youth London and North Committees.

Lady Anne Stoneham MBE, Chair, UK Youth

Our President,

Nigel Mansell CBE

Our Patron, HRH

The Princess Royal

Thank you to our partners

Thank you to our partners who supported us during 2016/17.

















































































IBM

Peacock Trust

How to get involved with UK Youth

Help us build bright futures together

Become a member

Whether you're a regional association, network body, grassroots hub, community project, or social enterprise, we have the right membership package for you.

For more information email membership@ukyouth.org

Develop programmes

We work with a wide range of organisations, corporates and the government to develop our world-class skills development programmes.

For more information email programmes@ukyouth.org



Visit Avon Tyrrell

Avon Tyrrell, our outdoor centre in the New Forest, offers an extensive range of adventure, outdoor learning and tailored programmes for groups and individuals.

For more information email info@ukyouth.org

Volunteer

We are always on the lookout for passionate people who can give their time and skills to support our work in a variety of ways.

For more information email volunteering@ukyouth.org

Donate

The successes in this Annual Review wouldn't have been achieved without your donations.

To make a donation and help sustain, strengthen and grow our work visit www.ukyouth.org/donate

Corporate partnerships

We have significant experience creating long term bespoke partnerships with businesses.

Find out how your business can get involved with our work email partnerships@ukyouth.org

Fundraise

We could not do our vital work without people raising money for us by getting involved in a range of events from marathons to Gala Dinners.

To see our Events Calendar visit www.ukyouth.org/our-events or email events@ukyouth.org





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