

YOUTH PRESS

Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight Working to Enable Young People to Fulfill Their True Potential

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The St Thomas Centre, 20 Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9EF. 01962 852307 www.ychiow.org.uk

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK...

We recently held our Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Littleton and Harestock Millennium Hall. This was a great evening with a chance to celebrate our achievements and thank all those whose hard work and dedication makes it possible for YCHLOW and its many affiliated youth clubs, groups and projects to provide the services young people both need and deserve.

We traditionally award 2 prizes at our AGM and this year was no different...



Our first award was the Oliver Bellasis award known as the Youth Worker of the Year Award. Although there can only be one winner, this award is given in recognition of the hard work of the many, volunteers who work so hard to ensure young people have somewhere safe to go in their leisure time that will provide them with interesting and enjoyable experiences. This year's winner was Jeanne-Marie Steels from The Base in Hook.

The second award is the Participation Award and this is given in recognition of all those youth clubs, groups and projects who 'go the extra mile' for the young people they work with. The award acknowledges the hard work and dedication required to overcome the many obstacles and difficulties that can face youth clubs, groups and projects. The winner of the award this year was The Garage Youth Centre in Totton.



Congratulations to our winners and many thanks to all those who came along and made our event a great success and a real celebration of the work of Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

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PEER EDUCATION: WHAT IS IT AND WHY DO IT?

Within the context of youth work, Peer Education is about providing young people with the opportunities, skills, confidence and support to pass on information to other young people. This means that not only do your Peer Educators benefit so do the young people they educate.

The benefits to the Peer Educators include:

- Explore how to listen effectively to others
- See the world through someone else's eyes
- Understand how their attitudes and values can affect others
- Be aware of and be prepared for possible difficulties
- Evaluate their progress
- Practice their skills

The benefits to the young people they educate can be very varied as it will depend a lot on the peer education project but they can include:

- Receiving information about important issues and topics
- Communication of information is at their level
- Experiencing positive role models
- Inspired to become Peer Educators themselves

It is important that Peer Educators are provided with the appropriate help, support and training to help them be clear about what their aims are and how they can achieve them.

If you want to provide opportunities for Peer Educators in your youth club, group or project and would like more information or advice about how to do this you can get in touch with us on 01962 852307 or email ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk.

We also offer support and workshops for both youth workers and young people that will help you develop the knowledge and skills needed for successful Peer Education Projects.



STOP PRESS: We are very excited to announce that due to popular demand we will be running three outdoor activity days in 2010, as these get booked up very quickly and have limited spaces, we would recommend that you put the dates in your diary now!!!

***The dates are:
Saturday February 6th
Saturday April 24th
Saturday June 12th***

Need to know more, or want to book some spaces? Contact us on 01962 852307 or email ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk

This section of our newsletter aims to provide some information and food for thought about those topics that come up time and again when we're out and about visiting you in your clubs, groups and projects. If you want to discuss any of the information on this page in more detail then give us a call on 01962 852307.

Should we have a Bullying Policy?

Currently only schools are required by law to have a Bullying Policy in place but this doesn't mean that it's not a good idea. Research carried out by the NSPCC suggests that organisations with a bullying policy are more switched on to the possibility of bullying happening and take more steps to ensure the young people they work with are safe.

A bullying policy should ideally outline what your organisation means by 'bullying', what action will be taken to prevent bullying taking place in the first place and how you will respond when bullying is discovered or reported.

A key factor in the prevention of bullying is providing adequate supervision as bullying primarily occurs in places where young people are not being supervised. Are there any parts of the building when you work that might be potential spots for bullying to occur? Can you supervise these to reduce the risk? Young people also reported to the NSPCC that having enough adult supervision is the most important factor in making them feel safe.

You can get more information on preventing bullying from many different sources including www.beatbullying.org and www.childline.org.uk.

Why not use anti-bullying week, 16th-20th November 2009, as a chance to kick start a discussion with your colleagues and young people about your organisation's approach to bullying? Visit www.antibullyingweek.org to find out more.

What information do we need when new young people join?

When a young person comes along to your youth club, group or project, you and your colleagues take on a Duty of Care for them, you take on responsibility for that young person 'in loco parentis'. This means it is up to you to make sure you do everything possible to prevent that young person coming to any harm whilst in your care.

Knowing what allergies and medical conditions a young person has and being able to get in touch with their parents or another nominated emergency contact are essential bits of information that you'll need in order to fulfil your Duty of Care to that young person. Imagine turning up at A&E and having no idea about the young person's medical background and allergies? Imagine a young person going missing from the youth club and you having no way of contacting their parents? If you start to think about it there are all sorts of very good reasons why you need some basic information about the young people you work with.

It doesn't have to be overly complicated and time consuming but having a signing up process for new members whether you run a youth club, youth café or a drop in centre really is a necessity if we take seriously our commitment to put young people's safety and wellbeing first.

STOP PRESS: Free Online Bullying Training: provided by EduCare, Preventing Bullying Behaviour is a very useful training course available free to voluntary organisations. Visit www.safenetwork.org.uk/training_and_awareness/Pages/free_educare_training.aspx to find out more. Even if you don't qualify for free training for all your staff team, get in touch with EduCare as we think their training rates are very competitive.

INDEPENDENT SAFEGUARDING AUTHORITY

There seems to have been a great deal of debate in the press about the new Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) coming on line and what it might mean for people working in a voluntary capacity so here is my attempt to answer some questions.

The ISA has been set up as a result of the Bichard Enquiry into the murders of two school girls at Soham in Cambridgeshire. Its duties are to monitor the suitability of people to work with vulnerable groups including children and vulnerable adults.

If you work with either of these groups you will need to be registered with the ISA who have the authority to bar anyone who has proven unsafe to work with vulnerable groups.

If you employ or take on anyone in a voluntary capacity to work with vulnerable groups you will be required to notify the ISA that you have an interest in this person and they will keep you informed as to this person's status. You must not take on or employ anyone to work with vulnerable groups who is barred by the ISA as this is a prosecutable offence.

As the employer it is your responsibility to notify the ISA of any issues you have about a member of staff's or volunteer's suitability to work with vulnerable groups. (This is called making a Referral)

THERE IS NO DISTINCTION MADE BETWEEN PAID WORKERS AND VOLUNTEERS.

This scheme does not replace any other measures you already take to ensure that a paid worker or volunteer is safe and suitable to work with young people, this includes ensuring they are who they say they are and obtaining a CRB disclosure.

What does it cost?

Paid worker: £64.00

Volunteer: free

From the perspective of someone running a youth club or project it will mean that you may have to pay for registration for your staff, however it is worth remembering that they believe this scheme will cover over 19 million people so there is a strong likelihood that some or even most of your staff/volunteers will already be registered as part of their main employment. People only have to register once.

Important dates.

Although the scheme goes live in October 2009 there will be a phasing in period.

From July 2010:-

Applications for ISA registration will start for all new applicants and those changing jobs. Individuals will be able to apply for ISA-registration and a CRB check (including an ISA check) on one new application form.

When a person becomes ISA-registered they will be continuously monitored and their status reassessed against any new information which may come to light.

Employers can subscribe or register an interest in an individual's ISA-registration status to be continuously informed of changes in an employee's registration status.

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So as not to disrupt normal recruitment over the traditionally busy summer period, the legal requirement for employees to register with the ISA, and employers to check their status, will come into force in **November 2010**.

From April 2011 Members of the existing workforce will be phased into the scheme, starting with those who have never had a CRB check .

I hope this information helps but if you have further questions this web site will help www.isa-gov.org.uk

Community First New Forest

MOPEDS LOANED TO YOUNG PEOPLE TO IMPROVE EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS

Young people will be able to get on their bikes and find jobs thanks to the moped loan scheme available and funded by Hampshire County Council, Winchester City Council, New Forest District Council, East Hampshire District Council and Test Valley Borough Council.

The Wheels to Work scheme is aimed at giving 16-25 year olds the means to travel to work, vocational training courses or interviews within the area. The Scheme will help those people who have poor access to public transport, may not be able to afford their own car and have no other access to private transport.

The 50cc mopeds, with tax, insurance and MOT can be loaned from between three to twelve months. The moped can be hired for a weekly charge of £12. All users have to complete compulsory basic training and will be given a helmet, gloves and hi-visibility vest all of which are provided under the scheme.

For those wanting to find out more about the scheme, contact the Wheels to Work Coordinator's on 0845 521 6405.

Phone 0845 521 6405

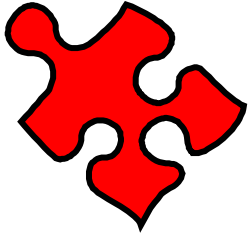
Email mopedadmin@cfnf.org.uk – New Forest and Test Valley area's
or mopedloan@cfnc.org.uk – Winchester and East Hampshire area's

Web www.cfnf.org.uk

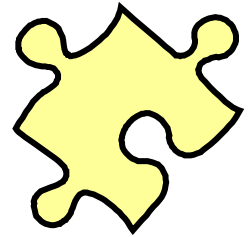
STOP PRESS: CAT MARK SUPPORT WORKERS. Do you enjoy working with young people? Are you able to volunteer a few hours each week on a flexible basis? Would you like to be part of a hugely successful Participation project? Then, WE NEED YOU!!!!

We are looking to recruit some more CAT Mark Support Workers, who can come along on Assessments and support young people. You get full training, a CAT Mark hoodie and badge and a volunteer log, as well as gaining new skills and experience!

So get in touch now ... call us on 01962 852307 or email ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk or go to our website www.ychiow.org.uk



TRAINING PROGRAMME



Taking place at the YCHLOW offices in Winchester...

Risk Assessment

An introduction to the concept of Risk Assessment as a method to minimise risk and create a safe environment for young people and workers.

Saturday 12th December 2009, 10am-4pm
Saturday 10th July 2010, 10am-4pm

Child Protection (Safeguarding)

Understand the basics of Child Protection, how to spot signs and symptoms of abuse and what action to take.

Saturday 14th November 2009, 10am-4pm
Saturday 13th March 2010, 10am-4pm

Dealing with Challenging Behaviour

Tips and techniques about how to handle those tricky situations where young people's behaviour is verging on being 'out of control'.

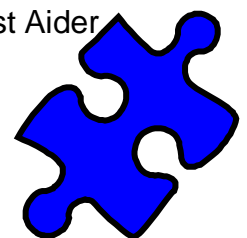
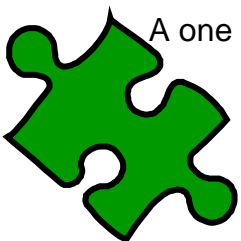
Saturday 27th February 2010, 9:30am-4:30pm
Saturday 19th June 2010, 9:30am-4:30pm

Taking place at the Red Cross Centre, Winnall Close, Winchester, SO23 0LB...

First Aid

A one day course to help you get to grips with the basics of being a First Aider

Saturday 15th May 2010, 9:30am-4:30pm



A word about training costs...

We do our best to ensure that all our training is as affordable as possible for our members. This means that our training events are heavily subsidised to keep the cost down. If participants fail to show up to a training event they have booked, not only have they deprived someone else of a place on the course but we still have to cover the full cost of the training taking place. This is why we have a £50 fee for non-attendance at training events. We don't want to put you off booking to attend our training events but we would appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that we can continue to make our training affordable and available to all who wish to attend. The full terms and conditions of booking can be found on our Training Booking Form.

STOP PRESS: Don't forget about our other training options. We can come to you to deliver training for you and your colleagues on all sorts of youth work topics. Check out our training brochure or visit our website, www.ychiow.org.uk for more details or call us on 01962 852307.