

Youth Pages December 2009

CAT MARK TRAINING

Interested in becoming a Cat Mark Assessor? Our next training event is on Saturday January 16th at our offices in Southgate Street, Winchester between 10 am and 2pm.

It's a great opportunity to meet other young people and become a certified Cat Mark Assessor.

The Cat Mark is a mark of quality, awarded by young people, for any organisations providing services to young people. Cat Mark assessors are young people aged between 13 and 25 who understand the needs of young people and can use this knowledge to assess the services that are designed for them.

Interested? Contact the Cat Mark Team on 01962 852307 or email ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk for a booking form. See www.ychiow.org.uk for more information on CAT Mark!



WHAT I GOT OUT OF IT: A CAT MARK ASSESSOR'S STORY

What have I learned on becoming a cat mark assessor? Well, I have learned many useful skills that I use everyday. The first one being listening; this is such an important skill and I can see why you need it as an assessor because you are dealing with all ages, it's not so much what people say it's the information and feelings they are trying to convey to you. This has been immensely useful when working with young children and adults because not all their vocabulary has developed and their ability convey what they feel into words can be difficult, so by having an open mind and well tuned listening skills you will quickly be able to understand what the person is trying to say to you and what they really feel.

Another skill I have learnt is empathy, I can now see different points of view on the same thing. This has given me a more objective view of life and I now have a greater understanding of equality and equal opportunities. Another skill is the understanding of disabilities. It has shown me that a disability can be more than just a broken leg its something that impairs peoples' everyday living of their life. It has also allowed me to realise that my disabilities need not get in my way, and I can do anything if I work and try hard enough. But the most important lesson I learnt is that of community and the importance of work together and valuing peoples skills and abilities and compromising to gain an outcome that everyone can be proud of and feel that they have contributed to.

Zachary Allgood, CAT Mark Assessor

ACTIVITY DAYS: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

We are very excited to announce that, due to popular demand, we will be running 3 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? Speak to your youth workers who can contact us for more details and to make a booking.



• Talking Point • Talking Point •

There has recently been a lot of debate and discussion about whether or not youth clubs, groups and projects should charge an entrance fee or 'subs'.

Do you think youth clubs, groups and projects should charge an entrance fee?

What costs does the club have and where does the money come from to pay for things like equipment, art supplies etc?

Do you think young people should contribute towards the running costs of your club, group or project and what are the different ways that you can do this?

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY?

- 4th January 2010 is World Braille Day: Do you know what Braille is? Would you be able to use Braille? Find out more at www.cnib.ca/en/living/braille/braille-system/Default.aspx
- 25th-29th January 2010 is Food Allergy and Intolerance Week; a campaign to raise awareness about the many people who suffer from food intolerance to ingredients such as wheat, dairy, eggs, and gluten. www.allergyuk.org/ has more details for those who want to know more.
- 28th January 2010 sees the launch of the Variety Club's new Gold Heart Appeal with spokesperson, Alisha Dixon. Find out what the Variety Club and how to get involved by visiting www.varietyclub.org.uk/how-you-can-help/gold-hearts-2010
- 29th January 2010 is SOS Day, an event organised annual by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution to raise money and awareness of their work and safety on the water. Find out more or join in by visiting <http://rnli.org.uk/sosday/home>
- 30th January-6th February 2010 is National Storytelling Week. What could you do at your youth club, group or project to get involved? Visit www.sfs.org.uk/ for information and ideas.
- 8th-14th February 2010 is World Orphan Week seeking to help re-home 1000 orphans as a result of the campaign. See www.soschildrensvillages.org.uk/donate-help/wow for more info.
- 22nd February-7th March 2010 is Fair Trade Fortnight. What do you know about international trading and how it involves the choices you make when you go shopping? Visit the website for lots of information and ideas about how to get involved: www.fairtrade.org.uk/thebigswap/



Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight
The St Thomas Centre, 20 Southgate Street, Winchester, SO23 9EF. 01962 852307. www.ychiow.org.uk

