



investing in children

## Evaluation for Investing in Children membership

### Dawdon Youth Club (13+)

Dawdon Youth Club offers young people aged 13 and upwards a weekly youth club based in Dawdon Community Centre. The project runs every Wednesday evening from 7pm till 9pm.

During my visit I met with the following young people who all access the club on a regular basis and some of whom have been attending the club for quite a long period of time.

I would like to say a special thanks to Terry 15, Erin 14, Aaron 13, Abbie 15, Neil 15, Ian 13, James 13, Adam 15, Simon 16, Reece 16, Rebecca 13, Sam 15 and Scott 19 who were kind enough to tell me about the club, the type of things they do at the club and how they are involved in decision making and change.

The project offers young people the opportunity to take part in various activities and projects including: playing pool, cookery, using the computers, doing arts and crafts, playing football, taking part in quiz's, games and competitions and issue based work i.e. Drugs and alcohol and the environment etc..

### Opportunities for Dialogue and Change/Young People's Views

The young people I met with firstly described the best bits about the club;

Rebecca told me 'We get to learn about drugs, relationships and sex education'

'We like the computers and getting to cook'



'It's good because you get to do competitions and they do quiz's for us'

'I like coming because you get to socialise with your mates'

'We talk about things we want to do and discuss them and decide as a group'

'I asked if we could do some cooking and we ended up making lots of things'

'Say you give them an idea of what you want to do; the next week they will do it'

'I got to do my Duke of Edinburgh Award here'

'When we get to go on trips we write down all our ideas and have a vote'

'If you put an idea forward they will take it forward and try and do it for you'

### Loud and Proud Banner



'We had an artist come in and help us make a banner and we got to make a section each'

'We walked through Dawdon with it in the procession'

'We got our bronze Youth Achievement Award as part of this project'

'It was really good and our banner is going to be put up in the centre'

## Youth Achievement Award



The young people told me how they had the opportunity to do various levels of the youth achievement award through the club.

'I used the loud and proud banner as photographic evidence for my bronze award'

'We have done relationship training and taken part in health projects where we made healthy cocktails'

## Stadium of Light

'As part of the show racism the red card project we went to the stadium of light to ask footballers questions, won prizes and watched DVD's'

## Changes

Finally the young people spoke about the future and any changes they would make to the club. They said:

'We would like to go on more trips, do more outdoor activities and more cooking sessions'

## Conclusion

It is clear from the young people's views that they are able to make decisions and influence change. When asked if they feel they are listened to at the club they all wholeheartedly agreed, and on that recommendation I agree that Dawdon Youth Club should receive Investing in Children Membership.

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