



Re-evaluation for Investing in Children membership

Fishburn Youth Centre

For the purpose of this re-evaluation for Investing in Children Membership I met with Lee, Katie Daniel, Emily, Jonathan, Alex, Leah, Danielle Megan and Ann Marie

Fishburn Youth Centre still offers a four night youth provision and various activities and projects during school holidays .Many of these activities and projects are what young people ask for, and they can then plan themselves.

The staff members are very committed to encouraging young people to take a lead on the development of the centre. This has created a framework of opportunity for the young people who use the centre to decide on what they want to do at the centre. Provisions are based around this process.

This report will highlight the opportunities young people have, to make changes through dialogue at the centre, and look at the changes that have occurred because of this.

On the Move

This group at the youth centre help to support young people and allows them to have a say on many different issues at the centre. It gives young people the opportunity to make decisions based on what they, and other young people want to do at the centre and they can discuss these issues with the senior management committee.

Members of the 'On the Move' represent young people's issues and ideas, then the group try to raise funding to develop these ideas.

Leah told me, **"We want a new stage"**, and she also told me, **"The idea came from young people originally to get a new stage"**.

Alex added, **"We always meet up and discuss what we want and how to get it"**.

The group raised over a thousand pounds through various events, which included a Race night. The centre now has a new stage. Young people have also been to Blackpool and London and are organising a fun day over the summer so they can do more things.

Danielle explained, **"The club is fun, but could be better if there was more sports equipment like net balls, gym mats, and rugby balls"**. This might be something 'On the Move' and staff might want to discuss.

On the Move Committee

Members of the club continue to meet regularly at a youth club committee meeting in order to discuss and plan different activities and events.

Ross told me, **“We all meet up as one big group and chat about different things and some young people have different roles on the committee”**

It was very encouraging to observe a committee meeting taking place when I visited the centre. The meeting, which was chaired by a young person, gave lots of young people the opportunity to discuss an activity fun day that some young people were organising.

Jonathan who is part of the group told me, **“We managed to raise £1400 and everyone will get the chance to have a say how it will be spent”**

Guitar Group

I also met with two young people who have formed their own guitar group with the support of the centre.

Megan explained, **“It’s really expensive to buy equipment and there are a few of us who want to start up a band eventually”**.

Megan added, **“We have just got a new Marshall amp and some other stuff”**.

Ann Marie, **“There is a lads group on a Monday”**. Ann Marie went on to explain, **“A lads group have started to come on a Monday after seeing us in the summer show which is good”**.

Young people have been supported in setting up their own groups and have asked for, and received, funding to develop their groups, with the support of staff at the centre.

Drama Group/Project

This group continues at the centre and it seems to allow many young people to participate in decision making and direct the project, including running a summer show last year.

Other Developments.

These have included young people applying to the Youth Opportunity Fund and successfully receiving funding to improve youth club facilities and buy new equipment.

Fishburn Youth Centre has already developed, and continues to develop and increase opportunities for young people to be listened to, and then they create activities based on what the young people want. The young people with whom I met spoke very positively of Richard Parkin, the lead youth worker, and believed that they were listened to and could generally do what they wanted at the centre. This is because they seem to have an effective working relationship with the staff of the centre when deciding and making decisions about what they want to do at the youth centre.

For these reasons I would like to recommend that Fishburn Youth Centre continues to be an Investing in children Member and look forward to further developments made by the young people at the centre when coming to re-evaluate the project for membership next year.

This report has been read and agreed by the following young people who attended Fishburn Youth Centre they are: - Lee, Katie, Daniel, Emily, Jonathan, Alex, Leah,

Danielle Megan and Ann Marie who agree that Fishburn Youth Centre should continue to be an Investing in Children Member.

I would like to finish by saying well done to all the young people and staff for their support when carrying out the re-evaluation for Investing in Children Membership.

Rob Johnson
Investing in Children
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