

Wendover Youth Centre Vision Document

Vision Statement:

We aspire to engage, inspire and empower all young people while respecting and valuing differences and promoting their voice. We support and enable their learning and development by being a central hub of information and activities, which we partly deliver in partnership with others and by working closely with the local community.

Key components of a future vision are:

UNIVERSAL YOUTH WORK:

A Youth Centre Supporting a Wide Range of Activities

- A clear pathway for young people from the age of 4 through to early 20's
- Become a 'Hub' for young people that provides a safe, pleasant environment where they belong and can have fun, develop and learn
- Ensure every young person in Wendover is aware of our existence and the services we offer
- Ensure our services are accessible to the whole community and that we are easy to contact and engage with
- Be an active thriving centre with activities happening 300 days of the year
- Continue to deliver focused and open access activities for 9–16-year-olds
- Develop our youth provision to provide support for young people 16+ in the areas that are needed, including:
 - An open and trusted environment
 - Support for young person led initiatives and activities
 - Mentoring
 - Mental & physical health
 - Employment
 - Build a fund that offers bursaries/free access to our services for those who need it
 - Support young people in transition from secondary to tertiary education
- Continue the running and growth of the wrap around care and holiday camp care for those aged 4-12 years old through our partnership with Premier. This strategic partnership builds a pipeline for young people, and exposes local youngsters to the workings of WYC from an early age.

TARGETED YOUTH WORK:

Focused Youth Work that Target's Needs:

- We are clear on the work we deliver directly, and when we need to refer to partners;
 - Work with individuals and groups who need help and assistance e.g. challenging family circumstances, disability, underperforming in schools and mental health

- We provide a wide range of facilities and services for these young people AND recognise that we will, on occasion, encounter deeper issues that are beyond our capabilities
- We establish the boundaries of our work as a youth centre and ensure that all staff and volunteers, know when to refer to others.
- We are recognised for our effective referral system where we become a hub of information for young people and have the knowledge and network to refer them to the correct service.
- Provide a service that can reach and is accessible for the vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in our community. We do this through;
 - The provision of information,
 - Our outreach activities,
 - Partnering with others who have greater access to these young people
- Operating standards to ensure that all who work and volunteer are fully trained for the roles they perform.
 - Appropriate training including safeguarding, first aid, and inhouse procedures
- A range of tailored interventions and courses which we offer through partner organisations (Note: John Colet is currently the main partner for such work) covering areas such as;
 - Mental Health and wellbeing
 - Post Covid-19 mental health
 - Transition support for young people moving between schools,
 - Assemblies & bespoke workshops on internet & social media usage etc.
- A leadership pathway for young leaders that builds skills and experience which they can use in their future.
 - D of E Volunteering
 - Young leaders to volunteer –
 - Youth
 - Work experience opportunities
 - Offer Youth qualifications and Courses

Partnerships:

- Continue and strengthen relationships with our current partners to deliver high quality youth work which contributes to young people and the local community. Current partnerships include;
 - John Colet School
 - St Mary's & Free Church,
 - Lindengate
 - Youth team at BCC
 - Parish Council
 - LAST
 - Premier

- Drama hub
- Extend our work to partner increasingly with the two local primary schools (Wendover and Halton) and other youth organisations (such as Cricket Club, Football Club, Scouts, and Guides.)
- Be willing to invest and stretch the work/thinking - for example; if schools are reluctant partners show them what we can do.
- Develop good relationships with local referral partners to help support the work we do and to have a simple and effective referral system in place.
 - E.g., Bucks Council, CAMS, MIND,
 - Ensure they are aware of WYC and the role we perform, and we know how and when to access their services
- Forge connections with other Youth Workers in the local youth centres
- Project work and exchanges with other organisations

Community:

- Keep providing opportunities for young people and the youth centre to work closely with the local community, including things like;
 - Environmental projects – making Wendover carbon-neutral,
 - Community events – support, contribute to and be visible at these events,
 - Pen pal, foodbank and other targeted schemes
- Be advocates for Young People. Ensure we communicate the value of young people to the community by sharing good work and news to demonstrate how they are contributing towards the community.

Organisational:

- Be a well-resourced and self-funded organisation.
- Build the employed Youth Worker team to satisfy the demands of the local people and community. During the next 5 years we envisage employing at least one additional Youth Worker to reduce dependence on too few key individuals and meet these local demands
- Deliver our work professionally – ensure that employees and volunteers are committed, trained and supported to provide an excellent service to young people and the community
- Constantly developing and adapting what we offer as an organisation to meet the demands and needs of the young people in Wendover.

- Develop a clear induction and training structure for all staff, volunteers and young leaders
- Maintain current and develop new income streams for the youth centre
 - Rental income
 - Activity income
 - Focused work and projects income
 - Fundraising and donations
- Continue to maintain good relationships with current funders
 - Providing regular updates and communication
- Secure financial sustainability by ensuring that our core activities are self-funded and that funding applications are used for focused projects, interventions and community work.
- A well-equipped and maintained building. The building, equipment, and grounds are maintained in a manner consistent with being a Youth Centre (good quality and workable, without being pristine and untouchable!)
- Repair, develop and invest in our outdoor garden area so it becomes able to be used for activities/rentals the whole year around.
- Youth Involvement in running of Youth Centre
 - Young people at trustee meetings
 - Board/group of young people who represent young people
 - Inputting where they need the needs are and what they want the centre to provide