



## YOUTH WORK SESSIONS – LYNEHAM

(October 2019)

### Introduction

This report sets out to provide a recap of the CMAS provision in Lyneham. Data is provided for October 2019 for the youth club in the MOD Community Centre on Friday's. This report shows the effectiveness of the sessions, which young people choose to come along to and the advice and sign posting given by trained youth workers.

### Background

Most of the young people who were previously attending the youth club are now moving on to universities, jobs or army training. Leaving space for new members, starting with a group of young people who have attended before; however, they were not attending regularly due to a rift between themselves and the older members. More recently we have had four new members join us, who have settled in well with the other members of the group.

Some of the young people in this group are considered to have risky behaviours due to the use of drugs and alcohol and being 'under the radar' of other agencies and we have been able to give them information, support and referral where appropriate.

We offer a central safe space where young people can come (free of charge) and take shelter, have a hot drink and snack. We offer planned session activities which they can chose to join in with. However, they may just want to come in and engage with the youth workers.

### Data

Session dates	Number of young people	Activities and discussions
4 <sup>th</sup>	12	Smoothie making, table football, card games, snooker, table tennis. Discussions about dealing with a loss in the family, support given to the YP effected.
11 <sup>th</sup>	10	Mental health awareness quiz, 'tea and talk', the young people wrote down what 'keeps them going', pool and table tennis.
18 <sup>th</sup>	9	Pool/snooker, table tennis, card games, and table football.

		Conversations around safety at Halloween parties.
25 <sup>th</sup>	8	Toffee apples, pin the nose on the witch, discussions around the young people's plans for Halloween and how to be safe when out and about in the dark.

## Effectiveness

6 young people presented risky behaviours to youth workers, but not yet reaching the safeguarding level. During the session young people were informed about the implications of drug and alcohol use and the impact of their sexual health choices. They also had discussions about dealing with mental health and eating habits/disorders. It is our opinion that the information given and session interactions have definitely contributed to support positive changes to the young people's lives, both now and in terms of future life choices with many young people asking for career and further education advice, one of which has expressed an interest in becoming a youth worker.

Whilst we are supporting current individuals and friendship groups to make positive moves forward, there are younger teenagers joining us who are easily influenced and need similar support. It is our view that the youth club should continue for the foreseeable future. The Lead worker in this group has been out and about in the Lyneham community in her own time to put up posters about the youth club in an attempt to bring in new members, this along with regular Facebook updates and communication with schools should help ensure the existence of the youth club is known to the wider community.