

YOUTH HUB

‘TO CHANGE HOW A GENERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE PREPARE FOR THE WORLD OF WORK SO OUR LOCAL ECONOMY THRIVES’

ASPIRATIONS

Supporting young people to realise their full potential

SKILLS

Preparing young people for the world of work

EMPLOYABILITY

First steps towards their career path.



WHO WE ARE

The Youth Hub operates within the Blackburn & Darwen Youth Zone, offering personalised support to young people aged 16 to 24 from Blackburn with Darwen, helping them prepare for the world of work.

The dedicated team at the Youth Hub includes progression coordinators, youth workers, and health and wellbeing professionals, all committed to assisting young people in overcoming obstacles related to education, employment, or training.

Our approach involves providing a comprehensive support service that encompasses addressing health and wellbeing concerns, offering pastoral support, and facilitating the development of valuable work skills.

ENGAGEMENT METHODS

Activity Based engagement –

The Youth Hub team incorporates the learning through activity approach in both one-on-one and group sessions. This method, known for its immediate engagement and fast, effective outcomes, has been successfully adopted.

Wow Tours – *WOW (World Of Work) Tours*

Our young people of Blackburn & Darwen have the opportunity to enter the world of work through the power of partnerships, local businessmen and women offering their time to discuss potential work opportunities, offering work experience, facilitating workshops on interview techniques and giving general advice and guidance.



YOUTH HUB IN NUMBERS

700

Young people
support in Youth
Hub

206

Young people
into employment

270

Number of Young
people in training

2100 Hrs

of one to one support

36

Number of Young
people into
education

250 Hrs

of training
Young people

350

Hours of
activity based
engagement

Held over

20

careers and
aspirations fairs



QUOTE

The Blackburn Youth Hub has supported me in so many ways, they are easy to talk to, they understand you when no one else does, and they are extremely supportive. I wouldn't be where I am now if I didn't have the support of the Blackburn Youth Hub. Through 1-1s they have given me the opportunity to gain my confidence back and they have helped me push my limits even further and got me out of my shell. I have learned new skills and qualifications due to the training days and courses they have held.'



CASE STUDY

Case Study – From sofa-surfing to paid employment

CC was originally referred to the Youth Hub by her DWP work coach. CC had been homeless on and off for over a year and lived in a car with her partner. A relationship breakdown found CC sofa surfing between friends, not knowing where she would sleep from one night to the next.

While open to employment, it became clear that CC's biggest obstacles were her housing situation and debilitating anxiety. Rather than looking at her employment status straight away, her Youth Hub mentor focused on securing stable accommodation and an emergency referral for support was made.

CC received housing support from Nightsafe and eventually secured more long-term stable accommodation, enabling her to engage in the Hatch employment project. She completed this and secured a four-week paid placement with one Herbert Parkinson. At the end of her placement, Herbert Parkinson was so impressed with CC's ability and commitment that she was offered a full-time position with the company.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- Fuse Box, multi-agency partnership approach to supporting young people of BWD.
- School & college engagement- working with those on the cusp of NEET
- Development of our Emotional Health & Wellbeing service
- World of Work experiences for young people within our Patron network
- Corporate volunteering- Business mentoring