



Introduction

Welcome to Pelton Youth Project's February 2023 update. The youth work team aims to maintain regular and consistent communication between ourselves, our board of trustees, and our key partners including Pelton Parish Council. Our monthly updates are also uploaded to our website, and are therefore accessible to all young people, parents, and other partner organisations who may wish to read about our progress. This February 2023 update reflects on the re-start of provision since the Christmas holidays, discusses the progress of our Box Buddies are Back project, and our plans to deliver offsite activities in February half term. More standard information relating to annual attendance and funding is also included. Should there be any questions relating to the content of this report, then please contact me (Tom), Youth Project Manager at tom_pelton@yahoo.co.uk.



Room 14 & Grange Villa Offsite Activity Session Merge



Our term time programme has largely remained the same throughout 2022-2023, as per the youth work flyer attached to this report. However, in January 2023, the youth work team decided to merge Room 14's offsite activity session with Grange Villa's session on a Wednesday, which was being delivered onsite in GVCE and is now merged to be delivered as a joint offsite activity session. Presently, we have over twenty-five young people signed up to

participate in trampolining every Wednesday evening at Infinite Air. The young people are having a great time participating in this physical activity with a larger group of their friends than normal. This change is going to allow the youth work team to take young people to different venues, try new activities, without the previous constraints of the onsite session.

New Year – Attendance Snapshot

The youth work team are extremely pleased with the progress of youth services across the area since we re-started delivery following the Christmas holidays. In light of the cost-of-living crisis, it was anticipated that our provision would be highly attended after Christmas, as our services are affordable and reliable for families affected by rising costs and depleting financial resources. In the table, you will see a snapshot of one week's attendance commencing 23.01.2023, relating to our thirteen youth work sessions. You will see from these figures that access from young people is strong. If you take Thursday 26th

Attendance Week Commencing 23 rd January 2023		
Evening	Session	Attendance
Monday	Senior Youth Club	36
Monday	FH & BM Activity Session	9
Monday	FH & BM Outreach Session	19
Tuesday	Junior Youth Club	50
Tuesday	Senior Youth Club	39
Wednesday	R14 & GV Offsite Activity	12
Wednesday	DofE Session	17
Thursday	Junior Youth Club	67
Thursday	R14 Football Session	13
Thursday	DofE Session	28
Thursday	DofE Activity Session	28
Friday	GV Youth Club	9

January for example, we supported one hundred and eight young people in one evening's sessions, which makes us extremely satisfied with the work we do in our community.



Box Buddies Are Back!

In our January 2023 update, we informed you of the delightful news that Pelton Youth Project was awarded just short of ten thousand pounds. This is to deliver the Box Buddies are Back youth social action project, which is funded through County Durham Community Foundation's #iwill grant scheme. I am thrilled to be reporting



that this work has begun, and young people have already started to benefit from their weekly snack and activity packs. In the picture you will see senior youth club members Leo, Maisy, Ella, Jess, and Ava busy making up the packs during their Tuesday evening senior youth club session. These are just five of the young people who have been helping Tracy to put the packs together, ready to hand out during the Thursday junior youth club session. The first week that the packs were handed out, on Thursday 26th January 23, sixty-seven young people accessed the juniors session and all received their packs. The following week, sixty-nine young people attended and took home a pack. Our JYC members now look forward to a Thursday, and to the box buddies. In the second picture, Jess and Maisy are handing out the bags to young people as they leave Room 14. Huge thanks to CDCF for funding the project, and to our senior members for supporting its delivery and making it a success.

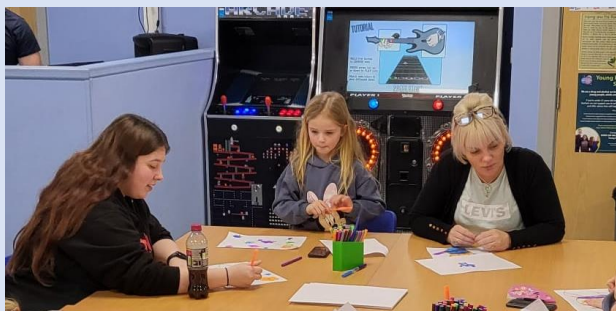


February Half Term

Pelton Youth Project, like each of the school holidays, will be offering activities to young people over February half term. This time, it will be our senior youth club and DofE members that will benefit from offsite activities. The senior youth club will be visiting planet leisure to participate in two of their activities, while our DofE group will take part in an ice skating at Whitley Bay ice rink. I look forward to reporting how these trips turned out in next months report.



University of Sunderland Students



Throughout our fifteen-year existence, Pelton Youth Project has supported countless students on placement, most often studying with the University of Sunderland on their Community and Youth Work degree programme. I am pleased to be reported that presently, the youth project has two students on placement with us. First year student Lyndsay Fletcher and second year Lily Hunt, have been settling well into working with our young people across our delivery programme, and will be with us until May & June 2023. It is a massive support to the youth work team to have students, and Lyndsay and Lily are a great addition to the team.



Room 14 Main Area Cladding

We reported last month that our main area in Room 14 was going to have the same protective internal cladding installed as the corridor areas of the youth centre. I am pleased to update partners that the new cladding is almost complete, as you will see from the picture. The corridor cladding has made a significant difference in the youth centres' appearance, and this new cladding will do the same in the main activity area, which sees high numbers of young people utilising the space. It is going to keep the area looking clean and tidy, and will reduce the cost of re-painting in the future.



Fundraising Update



In January 2023, we received the £9,933.00 from County Durham Community Foundation for the Box Buddies are Back project, and that was our only grant income for the month. We did host a very positive meeting with representatives from the Ballinger Trust, who are going to be supporting Pelton Youth Project financially in the next financial year, hopefully supporting our senior youth club sessions. Youth workers are also planning an application to the Fun & Food grants programme, to support the

costs of our activity programme in the Easter holidays. I look forward to keeping you up to date with the outcome of our application.

2022-2023 Attendance

As of January 2023 end, Pelton Youth Project has contacted 847 young people in total throughout 2022-2023, an increase of 10% or seventy-seven participants since our previous report, which in a single month is extremely pleasing. This year, our aim continues to be to exceed one thousand young people supported across all youth sessions and services.

Pelton Youth Project Total 2022-2023 Attendance	847
One Youth Chester-Le-Street	516
APT Youth Project	254
Senior Youth Clubs	300
Junior Youth Clubs	258
Sports & Activity Sessions	327
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	77
School Holiday Programmes	251



Closing Comment

It has been excellent to see the level of access and participation across youth services, since returning from the Christmas break, we hope young people continue to access the sessions that exist to support their development. The merge of the two activity sessions has been a more practical use of our youth workers time, supporting more young people to gain new experiences and be physically active. The initial weeks of our youth social action project have been motivating, both in terms of the senior's supporting delivery and the juniors benefitting from the packs, may that continue. Finally, it has been excellent to welcome students on placement, and to improve the youth facility further, our youth project is performing well, and it is a joy to lead those services.



Pelton Youth Project Session Flyer – Updated Feb 2023



Pelton Youth Project

Room 14, Pelton Community Centre, Front Street, Pelton, DH2 1DE

Our Sessions:

Monday:

Fencehouses Activity Session | 4pm - 5:30pm (11 - 19)
Fencehouses Outreach Session | 6pm - 8pm (11 - 19)
Room 14 Senior Youth Club | 6pm - 8pm (11-19)

Tuesday:

Room 14 Junior Youth Club | 4pm - 5:30pm (7 - 12)
Room 14 Senior Youth Club | 6pm - 8pm (11 - 19)

Wednesday:

Room 14/Grange Villa Joint Activity Session | 5pm - 8pm (11 - 19)
Room 14 Duke of Edinburgh's Award | 7pm - 9pm (14+)

Thursday:

Room 14 Junior Youth Club | 4pm - 5:30pm (7 - 12)
Room 14 Offsite Activity/Outreach Session | 6pm - 8pm (11 - 19)
Room 14 Duke of Edinburgh's Award | 7pm - 9pm (14+)

Friday:

Grange Villa Junior Youth Club | 4:30pm - 6pm (8 - 14)



Supporting young people since September 2008
Operating from Room 14 since January 2010

