



Introduction



This report is written to provide an update on key developments and activities at Pelton Youth Project. This report includes information on our Easter programme 2026, our progress on DofE expeditions, new members of the youth work team, and upcoming plans for the summer holidays 2026. As with previous reports, important information on funding and attendance is provided towards the end of the document. These updates are intended to keep our trustees, funders, partners, parents, and young people informed about the continued progress of Pelton Youth Project. If you have any questions regarding the contents of this report, please contact our Youth Project Manager, Tom, at tom_pelton@yahoo.co.uk.

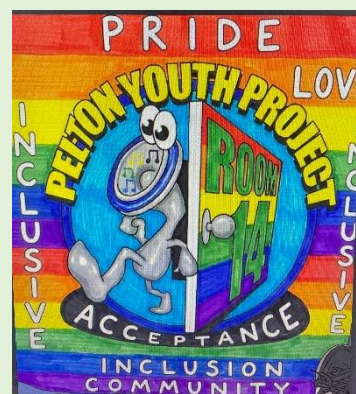
Easter Programme 2026

During the Easter holidays, young people participated in four sessions delivered by Pelton Youth Project, including three onsite sessions and one offsite activity. The onsite opportunities, held in Room 14, provided a range of creative and physical activities designed to encourage participation, teamwork, and wellbeing. Young people enjoyed craft activities such as making "Clay Easter Bunnies," which proved to be both messy and highly engaging. They also remained active through sports sessions in the main hall, including dodgeball, football, and capture the flag. Additional activities included an Easter egg hunt, wellbeing walks, and trips to the local park. To conclude the programme, participants attended an offsite visit to Infinite Air Trampoline Park, where they enjoyed using the trampolines and inflatable activities in a fun and energetic environment. We would like to extend our thanks to Durham Fun & Food, whose funding support made the majority of this year's Easter programme possible.



Durham Pride – Youth Print Youth Zone

Youth workers and young people are looking forward to supporting this year's Durham Pride celebrations. The group has been designing banners to carry during the parade through the city before heading to The Sands, where they will support Youth Print's Youth Zone, featuring stalls, games, activities, and freebies for young people. The event will also give participants the opportunity to enjoy the wider attractions and entertainment on offer throughout the day. Supporting Pride is an important way for Pelton Youth Project to promote equality, inclusivity, and respect, while standing in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community. This is going to be a great opportunity for our young people to meet and work with others from Youth Print organisations.





DofE Expeditions Begin for 2026



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award expedition season is now well underway, with the Room 14 DofE group having successfully completed four of the nine expeditions planned for this year. The expedition section of the award encourages young people to explore the outdoors, stay active, work as a team, and challenge themselves personally. So far, participants have completed a Bronze qualifying expedition in the Durham area, navigating local walking routes and camping overnight at Moor House Adventure Centre. Two Silver practice expeditions have also taken place, involving more challenging routes, overnight camping, and increased self-sufficiency. Most recently, young people completed a Silver qualifying expedition along Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland, camping overnight at Winshields

Campsite. Youth workers have praised the group for their resilience, teamwork, and determination throughout the expeditions, particularly when facing challenging weather conditions. A massive well done to all those young people and best of luck in completing your full awards this year.





New Youth Support Workers

Pelton Youth Project previously reported the appointment of Ryan, a long-standing volunteer, into the role of Youth Support Worker. I am now pleased to confirm that all current staffing vacancies have been successfully filled following the appointment of Laura and Lauren, who joined the team in their new Youth Support Worker roles in mid-April 2026. The addition of Laura, Lauren, and Ryan marks a positive period of growth and consolidation for the youth work team. It has been a pleasure to formally welcome them into the organisation and to support their induction into our programmes and sessions, as well as their early engagement with the young people we work with. Their transition into paid roles reflects both their commitment to the organisation and the value of their prior involvement and experience within our delivery. New team members often bring fresh perspectives, ideas, and approaches to youth work practice, which can strengthen and enhance existing provision. We are already seeing early signs of positive contribution, and we look forward to supporting their continued development as they settle into their roles. Over the coming months, we anticipate new initiatives and ideas emerging from the expanded team, further enriching our offer for young people and the wider community.



New Trainee Youth Worker



Pelton Youth Project are pleased to welcome Nicole to the team as our new trainee youth worker. Employed by NE Youth to support the Youth Print Durham partnership, Pelton Youth Project will act as the host organisation for the next three years. During this time, Nicole will gain valuable practical youth work experience through our sessions and programmes, alongside structured supervision and support towards a Level 3 Youth Work qualification, expected to commence during the second year of the traineeship. We are delighted to support Nicole in developing both traditional and targeted youth work skills, helping to build a strong foundation for her future career in the sector.

Summer Programme 2026

Pelton Youth Project continues to prioritise its school holiday provision in 2026, recognising the importance of tackling holiday hunger while ensuring young people have access to safe, engaging spaces, nutritious food, and consistent youth work support during school breaks. This summer is set to be one of our busiest programmes yet, delivering a four-week offer of twenty sessions for young people, including sixteen onsite sessions and four offsite activities. The programme will provide a varied mix of sports, crafts, music, games, and outdoor activities, designed to promote wellbeing, social interaction, and positive engagement. Offsite opportunities will include visits to Inflatespace and other local attractions, giving young people the chance to try new experiences, stay active, and enjoy time with friends outside of the youth centre setting. Overall, the programme reflects our ongoing commitment to providing accessible, high-quality youth work throughout the school holidays.





Fundraising Update

The beginning of the new financial year has been positive in terms of fundraising with three grants incoming so far, totalling £60,386.00. An annual grant of £5,000.00 from the John Horseman Charitable Trust, £9,943.00 from the 1989 Willan Charitable Trust, and £45,443.00 from The National Lottery Community Fund were all received in April 2026. There is a planned fundraising drive for June and July 2026, so we hope that this will encourage existing and new funders to support our work with young people. We would like to extend our thanks again to all those organisations who provide financial support, as we could not deliver our youth services without you.

End Of Year Attendance 2025-2026

As of the end of March 2026, Pelton Youth Project recorded a total attendance of 920 young people across its youth services. Of these, 652 attended the One Youth Chester-Le-Street programme, while 202 participated in the R14 Senior Youth Clubs and 162 in the R14 Junior Youth Clubs. A further 136 young people engaged in R14 sports and activity sessions, and 81 took part in the R14 Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme. While we normally aim to support one thousand young people each year, we are proud to have supported over nine hundred young people.

Total 2025-2026 Attendance	920
One Youth Chester-Le-Street	652
R14 Senior Youth Clubs	202
R14 Junior Youth Clubs	162
R14 Sports & Activity Sessions	136
R14 Duke of Edinburgh's Award	81
School Holiday Programmes	106
Grange Villa Youth Clubs	128
Events	189

Start Of Year Attendance 2026-2027

As of mid-May 2026, six weeks into the new financial year, we are pleased to have supported a total of 213 young people. This includes 89 through One Youth CLS, 63 through our senior youth sessions, and 66 in junior sessions. Our Easter programme managed to support 63 young people in total, which we hope to increase during the school summer holidays. We are pleased with our reach progress so soon into the new year. We are excited to continue to support as many young people as we can.

Total 2025-2026 Attendance	213
One Youth Chester-Le-Street	89
R14 Senior Youth Clubs	63
R14 Junior Youth Clubs	66
R14 Sports & Activity Sessions	83
R14 Duke of Edinburgh's Award	45
School Holiday Programmes	63
Grange Villa Youth Clubs	28
Events	0

Closing Comments



In conclusion, Pelton Youth Project continues to make strong progress in delivering high-quality youth work opportunities across our community. From a successful Easter programme and ongoing Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions to the expansion of our staff team and planning for an ambitious summer programme, the year has already seen many positive developments. We remain committed to providing safe, inclusive, and engaging spaces where young people can build confidence, develop skills, and form positive relationships.