



One minute guide

Youth Offer

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What is the Leeds Youth Offer?

The 'Youth Offer' is the term we use to describe the diverse range of youth work opportunities and activities available to children and young people in Leeds.

Youth work supports the personal and social development of young people, raising their aspirations, building resilience and enabling them to make informed decisions. Central to this, is a voluntary relationship with the young person.

Every week hundreds of youth work, sports, arts, and cultural opportunities are provided to children and young people living in Leeds, publicised through the [Breeze](#) website and provided across council directorates and through key partners.

Leeds City Council both directly provide youth offer services and also commission these from the third sector. The Youth Offer team includes: the Youth Service (Localities), Youth Service (Projects), [South Leeds Youth Hub](#), and the Youth Offer Quality Improvement Team.

In order to have the best services we can, we make sure children and young people have a meaningful voice and influence regarding the activities and services available to them. To reduce the demand for more specialist interventions, the Youth Offer has close working relationships with colleagues in a range of other services including: Social Care, [Youth Offending](#) and Targeted Services.

Youth Service (Localities) Team

Youth work supports the personal and social development of young people and builds the capabilities they need for learning, work and the transition to adulthood. This is achieved through the voluntary engagement of young people with skilled Youth Workers.

Programmes of youth work support young people to connect with their communities, enabling them to belong and contribute to society, including through volunteering, and support to have a voice in decisions that affect their lives.

The Youth Service (Localities) Team provides core youth work along with other youth work providers in the third sector. Youth work provision in Leeds is aimed at young people aged 11-17yrs (25yrs for those with complex needs and disabilities) who would most benefit from these opportunities.

These young people predominantly live in the most deprived neighbourhoods across the city. Emphasis is given to group work programmes to address the needs of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, with the aim of reducing demand for specialist or statutory services.

The Youth Service (Localities) Team includes the Pathways Support Team who support young people aged 16–17yrs not in education, employment or training (NEET) into learning and apprenticeships. They help with accessing benefits and finding career opportunities, and provide a drop-in service through Job-shops at key Community Hubs across the city, working closely with local youth work providers to support the most vulnerable NEET young people.

Youth Service Projects Team

The Youth Service Projects Team are responsible for the traded Youth Offer across three centres; [Herd Farm](#), [Lineham Farm](#) and the [West Leeds Activity Centre](#) (formerly The Lazer Centre). The projects combine exciting outdoor education experiences and a connection with nature, with a youth work approach that fosters personal and social development for children and young people.

The Projects Team provides support and capacity building to schools to enable them to extend their educational offer. Additional to their traded offer, they also deliver low cost/no cost activity for vulnerable groups working closely with social care colleagues.

South Leeds Youth Hub

[South Leeds Youth Hub](#), (SLYH) was built in 2008 with funding from the [Myplace](#) scheme, and is run by Leeds City Council on behalf of local young people. The Myplace programme was launched by the Department for Education in April 2008. Myplace centres have common objectives, but all operate independently of each other. Located in Middleton, SLYH runs activities for young people in their free time, as well as leasing the daytime use of the building to Southway Alternative Education who operate from SLYH as a school during school hours.

Youth Offer Quality Improvement Team

The Youth Offer Quality Improvement Team supports the Leeds Youth Offer Lead to meet our statutory duty to improve young people's well-being. This involves working with colleagues within the Children and Families Service, and across the council to:

Be an effective commissioner and work towards building capacity and ensure there is the right mix of provision and that it is accessible. This includes joint planning, based on need, with the involvement of all partners;

Ensure the workforce has the right skills to engage and meet the needs of young people;

Publicise the local Youth Offer and contribute to Leeds becoming a Child Friendly City by ensuring young people are actively involved in the design, delivery and decision making for the whole Youth Offer in the city.

The Youth Offer Quality Improvement Team are also responsible for the provision of the following services that support some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in the city:

The Return Interview Service for young people reported missing;

Gypsy, Roma, Traveller (GRT) team (0-25yrs); and

City Centre Youth Work including LGBT Youth Groups

Key contacts

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**Making
Leeds a child
friendly city**