

15+ Young Persons Aspiration group

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Current statistics

- Nationally, only 66% of Looked after young people in 2007 achieved a minimum of 1 GCSE or GNVQ compared with 99% of all young people (www.dcsf.gov.uk 2008)
- There are currently 187 15-18 year olds in Care in Nottingham City. Of those who left school in July 2009, 19% are currently not engaged in education, training or employment compared with 5.3% of the City's young people as a whole. (**Connexions figures 19/8/10**)

Vision

- One of the key messages in the *Care Matters: Ministerial Stocktake Report* (DCSF, 2009:5) focuses on Local Authorities working with Local Partners and looked after Children says:

“Children in Care can and will achieve if we give them the right support. It is up to us to ensure this happens”

Our Response to Care Matters

- The creation of The aspiration Group where every 15+ young person's unique potential is recognised and nurtured
- *Defined as:*
A fluid group of interchangeable post 15 young citizens in Nottingham City care who want to achieve in life

Aims of group

- To encourage solidarity amongst young citizens in our care
- To raise awareness about the career opportunities open to young people in our care post 16
- To encourage participation in learning (narrowing the NEET gap and tackling two of the CYPP targets, namely Enjoy and Achieve and Economic Wellbeing)



Achievements so far

- 4 group sessions have taken place at a range of Connexions and Children and Families venues since creation in August 2010
- Interest from young citizens has increased since the first meeting on the 9th August 2010, however participation has remained fairly constant
- 8 British young citizens have attended at least one session and 11 Asylum/Refugee young citizens have attended majority of the sessions

Achievements so far

- the sessions
- Partnership working has included Nottingham University, IRise Project, Nottingham Trent University, Connexions and 15+ Team – Children and Families
- **Activities have included –**
 - Working together through role play with young citizens
 - Tackling negative labelling for our young citizens

Achievements so far

- **Activities have included –**
 - Progression in the UK education system and Career planning
 - Self awareness and confidence building
 - Inspirational presentations from partners and group cohesion
 - Planning for future events

Evaluation/Future Developments

- **Observations:**
 - The majority of consistent attendance so far comes from the asylum/ refugee young people
 - Once on board with the group, motivation is high

Evaluation/Future Developments

- **Measure of Outcome:**

- Long term outcome will be monitored by recording current aspirations and comparing these with ultimate achievements by their 18th birthday

- Short term 'hard' targets will include maintaining EET status, raising aspirations, engagement in the group and peer led group activities

- Short term 'soft' targets will include an increase in confidence and leadership ability