

### **Youth Offer and Participation Team: Our Offer**

This document provides a comprehensive overview of the services delivered by the Youth Offer and Participation Team for professionals working with young people supported by:

- **Family Help**
- **Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel**
- **Aspiring Futures**

### **Background**

Local councils are legally required, as set out in Section 507B of the Education and Inspections Act (2006), to secure access to sufficient youth services for all qualifying young people, as far as is reasonably practicable. The term 'youth services' encompasses a variety of educational and recreational activities, as well as associated facilities, all designed to enhance young people's physical, emotional, and mental well-being. These services are particularly focused on those that are free or subsidised and are accessed voluntarily. The range of youth services available within a local authority area includes, but is not limited to:

- Sports and informal physical activities
- Cultural activities
- Outdoor, residential, weekend, or holiday-time activities
- Special interest clubs
- Volunteering activities

Anna Freud, in partnership with organisations such as the National Youth Agency, has explored the benefits of integrating a youth offer within the family hub provision. The findings indicate that this integration presents three significant opportunities:

- Creating more points of connection and engagement with parents, carers, and entire families
- Increasing opportunities for early intervention
- Enabling workforce development, ensuring consistent and effective support for both young people and their families

### **Requirements of Family Hub Framework 2025 – 2026**

Minimum expectations for service available face-to-face at a Family Hub:

- Staff in the family hub are aware of and able to refer young people to universal youth services, such as youth clubs, sports and other specific activity clubs, homework clubs and uniformed youth groups (for example, Scouts/Guides).
- Where appropriate, staff in family hubs should connect families to available targeted youth services such as prevention sessions or support for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) or specialist support for young people at risk of abuse or exploitation.
- Qualified youth workers are co-located in family hubs and able to provide immediate and specialist intervention, where this is best for the family, as well as signposting to positive activities/youth services in the community. Service available through the family hub but received elsewhere in the network
- Staff in the family hub are able to refer to appropriate youth services within the network. Virtual services available through the family hub, including static online information and/or interactive virtual services

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- Online family hub presence offers universal materials and information about how to book on to services.

### **Access to Our Place youth centre**

Our Place Youth Centre is currently located on the top floor of Walsall Saddlers Centre and operates from 15:00 to 18:30 on weekdays during school term times. Alternative opening hours are advertised to young people for school holidays. The centre is divided into zones offering activities such as gaming, pool, table tennis, crafts, a chill-out area, and Wi-Fi. There is a dedicated study area equipped with GCSE and A-level resources to support homework.

If a young person wishes to attend, supporting staff are welcome to accompany them. A staff member is always present at reception to greet attendees, and reasonable adjustments can be arranged in advance if required. While Our Place is a universal youth centre, its primary purpose is to create a safe environment, offer positive activities, and most importantly, help reduce youth anti-social behaviour (ASB), exploitation, and offending, particularly for young people who frequent the town centre.

For further information or to make a booking, please email [youthofferparticipation@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:youthofferparticipation@walsall.gov.uk)

### **Level up Lounge (Digital youth bus)**

The Level Up Lounge is a digital bus equipped with music and podcasting facilities. It serves as a mobile outreach resource or can attend events where young people are present. The current criteria for booking the Level Up Lounge include:

- Targeting areas within the community where young people are active, to help reduce the risk of ASB
- Attending community-based activities delivered by partner organisations

Only staff members who have completed the necessary driver training are permitted to operate the bus, and a trained driver must be present for all bookings. Each locality should have at least one named driver.

Please complete the link to booking form for access to youth bus:

<https://forms.office.com/e/BWGvaPu1NR>

Email enquiries: [youthbusbooking@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:youthbusbooking@walsall.gov.uk)

### **Our Voice - young person group**

Our Voice provides young people with opportunities to participate in decision making, social action, and advocacy regarding the delivery of services and activities at Our Place Youth Centre. The group convenes on the second Tuesday of each month from 17:30 to 18:30 at Our Place Youth Centre. Upcoming dates:

- Tuesday 13th January 2026
- Tuesday 10th February 2026
- Tuesday 10th March 2026
- Tuesday 14th April 2026

For more information email [youthofferparticipation@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:youthofferparticipation@walsall.gov.uk)

## Supporting Aspiring Futures and Low-Level Exploitation

Youth workers conduct Return Home Conversations (RHC) for any child or young person who does not have a lead professional in place. They also provide targeted support for young people identified as experiencing low-level exploitation through exploitation triage (facilitated by Aspiring Futures), where no other support is available via Family Help or the Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel.

### Targeted youth work

A dedicated team of six youth workers provides direct support to young people with the aim to:

- Prevent risk and escalation of contextual safeguarding concerns
- Offer informal education and support for an agreed period


Targeted youth workers coordinate and deliver evidence-based group work and one-to-one programmes for children and young people. These may be run independently or in partnership with other professionals and agencies, such as school health teams.

If a child/young person is already in receipt of support via a multi-agency assessment and plan with a Lead Professional, we will review the existing plan and offer additional support where the plan has been in place for a period of **over 3 months**. If the plan is **under 3 months**, this will be reviewed on an individual basis dependent upon need through a locality conversation (facilitated by Family Help).

Youth work support can be accessed by:

- Requesting a youth worker to attend your locality conversation
- Complete a Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Panel application (criteria applies)
- Complete an exploitation screening tool



Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel (fortnightly triage and panel meetings)	Missing and Exploitation daily triage	Locality unit meetings and Locality Conversations
<p>Please see Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel criteria:</p>  <p>Prevention%20Panel %20Criteria.docx</p>	<p>Youth workers will complete direct work with young people assessed as low level within an exploitation screening tool.</p> <p>Youth workers will complete return home conversations with young people if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• known to Our Place youth centre</li> <li>• already being supported by youth workers</li> <li>• there is no lead professional</li> </ul>	<p>Each locality has access to a youth worker offering information, advice and guidance and provide signposting to services within each locality.</p> <p>Youth workers will attend locality conversations for young people following 3 months or more of multi agency intervention and a minimum of 1 review</p> <p><i>*(If the plan is <b>under 3 months</b>, this will be reviewed on an individual basis dependent upon need through a locality conversation, facilitated by Family Help).</i></p>
<p>Complete Prevention Panel referral</p> <p><a href="#">Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Panel - Referral Form – Fill out form</a></p>	<p>Complete Exploitation screening tool</p> <p><a href="https://walsallsp.co.uk/children/professionals/professionals-working-with-children/exploitation/">https://walsallsp.co.uk/children/professionals/professionals-working-with-children/exploitation/</a></p>	<p>Request Locality Conversation</p>
<p>The Youth offer and Participation Team will complete a Mosaic workflow shown as ‘<b>Youth offer and participation targeted work request</b>’ to show the direct work complete and outcomes.</p>		

**Locality support**

Youth Offer and Participation staff participate in Locality unit meetings within their designated areas to share updates, discuss the youth and participation offer across Walsall, highlight seasonal activities, and address local trends affecting young people. Youth workers are also available to attend locality conversations as required.

**Youth Support Worker Apprentices**

The youth offer and participation team apprentices can offer support to complete young person consultations and participation work, support with interview panels and take part in locality events.

Please email youth Voice and participation apprentices on the contact details below.

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<b>Staff member</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
Jerome Patterson	North Locality	<a href="mailto:jerome.patterson@walsall.gov.uk">jerome.patterson@walsall.gov.uk</a> 07500809291
Jawanza Dennis	Central and South Locality	<a href="mailto:Jawanza.Dennis@walsall.gov.uk">Jawanza.Dennis@walsall.gov.uk</a> 07500553764
Paul Dennis	East Locality	<a href="mailto:Paul.Dennis@walsall.gov.uk">Paul.Dennis@walsall.gov.uk</a> 07834499382
Keiron Atkinson	West Locality	<a href="mailto:Keiron.atkinson@walsall.gov.uk">Keiron.atkinson@walsall.gov.uk</a> 07867908351
Natasha Hudson	Targeted intervention and RHC North Locality Monday and Thursday	<a href="mailto:natasha.hudson@walsall.gov.uk">natasha.hudson@walsall.gov.uk</a> 07706 715315
Holly Richards	Targeted intervention and RHC	<a href="mailto:Holly.Richards@walsall.gov.uk">Holly.Richards@walsall.gov.uk</a> 07341121988
Emmanuel Boamah	Youth voice and participation	<a href="mailto:Emmanuel.Boamah@walsall.gov.uk">Emmanuel.Boamah@walsall.gov.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:Godsent.Lucky@walsall.gov.uk">Godsent.Lucky@walsall.gov.uk</a>
Godsent lucky	Youth voice and participation	

### **Interventions available for children and young people via locality conversations and Building a safer tomorrow today panel:**

Needs identified among children and young people aged 10 to 18 include emotional wellbeing, educational issues, and general behaviour concerns. In response, the youth offer and participation team has developed several programmes, including Togetherness (previously the Understanding My Brain Solihull programme for teenagers) and Understanding Emotion Solihull programme for teenagers.

- **Understanding Your Brain:** A nine-stage intervention delivered over approximately two or three sessions.
- **Understanding Your Feelings:** An eight-stage intervention delivered over approximately two or three sessions.
- **Understanding Exploitation:** One-to-one direct work for young people at risk of harm outside the home. This two-hour session provides information, advice, and guidance on exploitation, the factors involved, internet safety, safety planning, healthy relationships, and accessible services.
- **Evolve (ENHANCE - Brain HQ) Mentoring:** Young people receive 12 weeks of one-to-one mentoring and complete weekly Brain HQ exercises to enhance cognitive functions such as attention, memory, and processing speed. The programme includes daily training (15 minutes per day) and weekly check-ins with a mentor, focusing on training, learning, and coaching.
- **Progressive Masculinity:** Delivered through the Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel referral, this intervention supports boys and young men in exploring and redefining masculinity, challenging stereotypes, promoting emotional literacy, and fostering healthier gender norms through workshops and mentoring.
- **Anti-Social Awareness:** Offered as a one-to-one or group session (approximately 1 hour), this intervention covers anti-social behaviour, the definition of harassment, alarm, and distress, and helps young people understand the risks and impacts of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) while encouraging pro-social choices.
- **Young Women's Group:** Preventative group work supporting young women in healthy relationships, sexual health, and confidence building. Sessions take place at Our Place Youth Centre on Wednesdays from 14:00 to 15:00 for six week periods.

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- **Young Men's Group:** Preventative group work focusing on creative arts, music, sport, and positive male role models. Held at Our Place Youth Centre, Wednesdays from 14:00 to 15:00 for six week periods.

### **Interventions available for children and young people via Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel interventions from partners:**

A variety of partner organisations provide additional targeted interventions for children and young people, including:

- **Community Activities Reducing Exploitation (CARE):** A 12-week mentoring programme for young people with undiagnosed SEN needs, offering access to sports-based positive activities.
- **Inpower Academy CIC:** One-to-one mentoring, access to martial arts clubs, and wellness and resilience programmes for young people.
- **Powered by CAN:** Group and one-to-one mentoring sessions for boys and young men aged 10–19 from ethnic minority groups, as well as girls of all ages. Aims to help young people develop commitment, challenge, confidence, and control.
- **Vision for All:** Offers mentoring, group sessions, community mentoring, mindset coaching, counselling, sports, emotional wellbeing and mental health support, women's and girls-only provisions, conflict resolution, and creative therapy sessions (such as Lego therapy). Supports young people at risk of both low-level (ASB) and high-level crime (county lines, exploitation, violence).
- **Midland Langar Seva Society (MLSS):** Provides summer holiday mentoring and positive activities, including boxing and music, for young people in the Bloxwich area.
- **Project Labb:** Offers targeted group music projects and culture/gender-specific mentoring, with personalised support tailored to individual needs.
- **Youth Connect:** Targets young people in Central and South Walsall, providing a 16-week mentoring programme and ongoing support, including access to youth club provision.
- **The Inspire Group:** Works with young people in East Walsall, offering weekly one-to-one mentoring and access to a Tuesday multi-sports session.
- **James Brindley Foundation:** Delivers weekly one-to-one support through The Full Circle Programme, including outreach mentoring to minimise risk of anti-social or criminal behaviour, specifically knife crime.
- **FNB (Forwards Not Backwards) Mentoring:** Focuses on promoting good mental health, life skills, developing protective factors, and providing positive role models around race and culture.

### **Interventions available for Parents:**

To refer for a parenting intervention please complete the following link [Parenting Support Request Form \(Teenagers\) – Fill out form](#)

- **Don't Slam That Door Parenting Workshop:** An introductory two-hour session helping parents understand teenage behaviour and communication, with further online parenting resources available.
- **Parent Aware:** A two-hour contextual safeguarding awareness workshop for parents, based on evidence from Ivison Trust (formerly PACE).
- **Supported Togetherness -online learning for parents:** Delivered in community libraries and connected services throughout Walsall. Supporting individual parents to access Togetherness training online within community venues. Parents have access to further online training.

**Quick look up of children and young person’s interventions:**

Provision	Group	1 to 1	From Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Panel	From Locality Conversation	From Exploitation Triage	Additional cost
Understanding your brain	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Understanding your feelings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Understanding exploitation		✓			✓	
Evolve		✓	✓	✓		
Progressive masculinity	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Anti-social awareness	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Girls group	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Boys group	✓		✓	✓	✓	
CARE		✓	✓	✓		
InPower academy		✓	✓			✓
Powered by CAN		✓	✓			✓
Vision for all		✓	✓			✓
MLSS		✓	✓			✓
Project Labb		✓	✓			✓
Youth Connect		✓	✓			✓
The Inspire Group		✓	✓			✓
James Brindley		✓	✓			✓
FNB		✓	✓			✓
Our Place youth hub	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Level up Lounge	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Our voice	✓		✓	✓	✓	

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*** Some of the interventions listed are specifically accessed and funded through the Building a Safer Tomorrow Today Prevention Panel via Home Office funding to 31/03/26, as Walsall is a pathfinder panel area. We are awaiting confirmation of further funding for 26/27.