

Weldon Parish Youth Work update Parish Council meeting 04.10.21

Rock Solid Youth Club is now back up and running after the summer break. We are letting the Big, Blue Bus have a bit of a break over the winter and have finally managed to secure ourselves a winter venue at PHP Community Centre. We have had to be quite creative with the space but the primary school Head and the community centre bookings administrator have been really helpful in their willingness to support us and as a result we have come up with a creative solution that should suit everyone. We continue to have new Weldon young people coming along to our sessions and retention of attendees has been excellent. Youth Club will continue to run during term time on Monday evenings 6:45-8pm. Supervision and training for volunteers continues to be an important part of the role and our volunteers are essential to the running of our youth events – a valuable asset! We are lucky to have such a dedicated group of people supporting our work. Five of our youth work team will attend First Aid training over the next 2 months.

Youth Church has also returned, allowing young people to explore what it means to them to be a Christian and to talk about some of the important issues they face in their lives. Youth Church runs for 40 mins prior to youth club each week. I am attending Youth Ministry training on a monthly basis.

I have now completed co-facilitation of my first Hope For Families Parenting course 'Dealing with Anger in the Family'. These courses are a lifeline to parents and a great opportunity to share experiences. I am regularly advertising these in Weldon and I hope there will be some local take-up as people start to become more familiar with the work I am doing. I will be leading a 'Teenage Years' course in the New Year so will do what I can to promote this across Weldon.

I have now managed to agree a meeting with key staff at Corby Business Academy. This is to look at how my work can support the school. Parenting courses will be on offer as will Emotional Well-Being workshops for students with a focus on post lockdown impact. The meeting is at the end of this month, at which point it will be clearer how we will be able to work together moving forward.

The Youth Club contributed to the Weldon village collection for clothes for Afghan refugees and I delivered a car-boot full of clothes to the organiser last week on behalf of the club.

Kirstie Lloyd-Uzoegbu Weldon Parish Youth Worker