

WHAT IS YOUTH WORK

It has come to our attention recently that some parents/caregivers may not be aware of what happens in a general youth drop-in session.

- Got2B sessions are run with qualified youth workers and may be supported by trainee youth workers and volunteers. All members of staff will have DBS checks and work in accordance with our organisations policies and procedures.
- Operating on a voluntary participation basis we don't insist young people are present all session - they are free to come and go as they please.
- Young People are asked to sign in on arrival but often give aliases, nick names, or false names. They are also asked for emergency contact details but these are not always given or are incorrect. Ultimately it is parent/caregivers responsibility to know of their child's whereabouts.
- We do have a duty of care and will raise concerns about a child's welfare with social care and other agencies in line with our safeguarding policy.
- Bullying racism, sexism, homophobia and extremist views will be challenged and not tolerated in our session. Instances may be reported to social care and police.
- If bad language/behaviour needs to be challenged, young people will be:
 1. Reminded of group expectations,
 2. Asked to modify behaviour/language,
 3. Asked to leave the session but are welcome to return to the following sessions.
- We work with young people through activities and conversations, which often develop into themes for further educational input. Our highly trained and experienced workers will give facts, guidance and signposting for further support
- we encourage young people to speak to parents and other trusted adults in their life, however we are aware that young people find some topics difficult to discuss with family members.
- In order to be responsive to the needs of Young People, session planning and pre-informing parents is not possible. But we would encourage

parents/caregivers to talk to their children about youth sessions and contact us if clarity is needed. Our aim to be transparent while maintaining a trusted relation with young people and their caregivers.

Conversations generated by young people can cover any number of themes, including:

Internet safety	Sexual health	Healthy relationships
Physical health	Mental wellbeing	School
Families	Bullying	Drugs and Alcohol
Personal safety	The law	Consent.
Current/world affairs	Body image	Sexuality and gender

In fact, we endeavour to discuss any issue raised by a young person.

Marion Harley & Julie Edwards

Got2b