



## FOUNDATION FOR ACTIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Based at St Andrews Methodist Youth Centre, Elm Park, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7PS  
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### Background Information

#### Where we are

The Youth Centre forms part of the complex of buildings owned by the Methodist Church in Filton, and is just off the A38 in Filton, about half a mile inside the South Gloucestershire boundary from North Bristol. The Youth Centre building itself sits between the church building and the Filton Leisure & Community Centres, just 100yards from the Elm Park playing fields.

#### What we are

The Youth Centre has been operating youth work in Filton for over 70 years and moved to its current premises when it was built (as a memorial) in 1967.

From April 2014, we became a registered youth & community charity called 'FACE' and we are now developing our work in all directions! South Gloucestershire Council currently contribute funding to the Centre for 2 evening youth club sessions for 11-19year olds each week. BBC Children in Need currently funds work with disabled children and teens. Additional funding from other sources supports other children's and youth work, schools work, community work, project work, residentials and evening trips. We are constantly updating and improving our offer to local young people, and now also to older and younger residents.

We welcome staff's input to our developments and are looking for enthusiastic and passionate staff who wish to join us in our journey. As we are a charity, this will include being involved in fundraising activities.

#### What we do

##### Regular Activities:

Day	Time & description	Target group / funded by...
Monday	Schools & community work during daytime as requested 1-3pm Young Carers support at Orchard School 2-3pm Monthly Golden Oldies 'Sing & Smile' group	<i>Funded by small grant</i> Local residents 50+yrs <i>Self-funding</i>
Tuesday	10am-2pm Facing Forwards social/educational group for adults with learning/social disabilities 1-3pm Young Carers support at Orchard School	<i>Funded through small grants and community learning</i> <i>Funded by small grant</i>
Wednesday	Schools & community work during daytime as requested 5-7pm fortnightly Filton Youth Council  7.30-9.30pm Youth club	Local young people aged 9-18years <i>funded by Filton Town Council</i> Local young people aged 12-18years <i>funded by South Gloucestershire Council</i>
Thursday	10am-12pm Silver Surfers group 12-1pm Chillax session at Charborough Road School  4.30-5.30pm 'Sensory Sparklers' group 6-7pm 'Bright Sparks' Youth club  7.30-9.30pm 'Illuminators' Transitions club	Local residents 50+yrs <i>Self-funding</i> Year 6 lunchtime activities - <i>costs contributed to by school</i> Young people with complex sensory needs Young people aged 11-15 with learning / social difficulties / disabilities Young people & adults aged 16+yrs with learning / social difficulties / disabilities <i>This evening work is funded by BBC Children in Need and small grants</i>
Friday	3.45-4.45pm Street dance for 9-14yrs 5-6pm Youth club 6.30-8.30pm Youth club	Local young people <i>self-funding</i> Local children Yrs 3 , 4 & 5 Local children Yrs 6, 7 & 8 <i>This evening work is funded by South Glos. Council and small grants</i>

*Schools work* - this is organised in conjunction with local secondary schools and special schools to meet requirements. Students are referred for courses on a range of subjects such as Relationships & Sex Education, Self Injury, Risky Behaviours, as well as Mentoring. We have an on-going relationship with Orchard School to provide Young Carer's groups and 1-2-1 support within the school on a weekly basis.

*Residential trips* - are organised when time and funding permits, around 2-3 times per year and take place in a variety of locations. These are great opportunities to further our work with members in more relaxed surroundings. Staff should be willing to work occasional weekends to support this work. We also join with Filton Twinning Association for trips abroad!

*Evening/daytime trips* - are arranged each term, when time and funding permits. These may include swimming, ice skating, go-karting, 10pin bowling, etc. The Elm Park field is also used greatly during the finer months for sports activities.

*Community events* - Each year FACE holds an AGM to publicise the activities of FACE and present accreditation awards to members. Invited guests and visitors include parents, funders, church members, local residents, other community organisations, and local dignitaries. We also do regular fundraising activities such as a Christmas and Easter fayres, pub quizzes, bag packing in local supermarkets, sponsored events, stalls at local festivals, coffee mornings and cake sales. Staff are very much encouraged and expected to support fundraising and awareness-raising initiatives.

### **Preparation, planning and evaluation**

All the sessions and trips require preparation, the minimum of which is that staff are expected (and paid) to arrive prior to the commencement of a session for vital communication-sharing and setting out activities. The start of the autumn, New Year and spring terms begin with a staff programme planning session which shapes our work for the coming 4months.

Staff meetings, training and annual youth worker training weekends are also an integral part of working at FACE as these allow staff to get to know each other better, share together at in-house training, and plan the work more efficiently.

Our work is evaluated in many different ways. After sessions time is set aside for staff to complete an evaluation-recording sheet. Our members also provide feedback which form part of the evaluation meetings that are carried out at staff meetings.

The Youth & Community Work Manager and Development Workers also complete Quarterly Reports, Operational Plans and Annual Reports, whereby all FACE's objectives are reviewed and evaluated. All staff are encouraged to take an active role in supporting these processes and have an input into their content.

### **Staffing**

Sessions for members run with an absolute minimum of two staff, but generally each open youth work session at FACE has at least three paid staff, plus a team of support volunteers. Sessions for younger age groups and people with disabilities often have more support. Currently there's a team of part-time youth and community workers and occasional Health & Social students on placement, as well as a number of adult and youth volunteers!

All staff (both paid and unpaid) must undertake reference checks, DBS Enhanced Checks, and induction sessions before starting work. There is a probation period, as well as also ongoing support, supervision, and training.

### **Training**

In-house induction and training is provided, and all paid staff are employed on a relevant scale. All staff are expected to sign up to training opportunities as and when they arise, even if outside of normal work hours, in order to develop themselves and improve the quality of the charity's work.

Volunteers are encouraged to also attend any training they are willing / able to attend, to develop their work practise. Expenses are paid for this if applicable. Development of all staff is seen as vital for the charity's work to be enhanced in the future and all staff should embrace these opportunities.