



TRANSFORM

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

Youth Initiatives Transform Project

Youth Initiatives Belfast/Lisburn Transform:

Youth Initiatives have commenced delivery of Phase 2 of the Transform Project to a cohort of 27 in West Belfast and East Lisburn. Ryan Lilley, Curtis Harmon and Ben Green are working with a diverse group of young men and women in both areas and are supported further by young people who completed Phase 1 and are now acting as peer mentors to the new cohort.

The project, consisting of Personal and Social Development Programmes, has commenced delivery including the targeted Life Skills Programme which addresses different Life Skills that are specifically focused on improving Mental Health and also assisting in the design of a Life Map of participants.

Already there have been trips to the new We Are Vertigo "Inflata-park" creating shared experiences that will build relationships and a positive outlook. In forthcoming trips, there are plans to go to Jungle NI, which will consist of many different team building challenges and new experiences, as well as a visit to other culturally significant areas around Northern Ireland. These trips and activities will be an opportunity to challenge and develop the young people to overcome obstacles and spend time with their peers in an environment different to their normal circumstances.

After Easter, the cohort will be commencing delivery of an OCN Level 2 in Personal Success and Wellbeing, as well as exploring Good Relations in their communities. In the Summer, the cohort will explore Citizenship through volunteering to help deliver Summer Schemes empowering young people to make positive choices that will support and benefit their local communities.



Youth Initiatives Derry/Londonderry Transform:

There are currently 22 young people engaging in Phase 2 of the Transform Project in Derry/Londonderry. This group of young people are building positive relationships, getting to know each other, sharing new experiences and actively becoming a presence in their community.

The first Transform Session was based around Personal Development and recognising each young person's leadership skills. The group also attended two events in the community, one being a 'Celebration of Chinese Culture', the other was 'Cultures from around the world'. Young people got to experience diverse foods from around the world, get Henna Tattoos, learn a traditional Chinese Dance, experience Japanese Drumming, Try on Clothing typically worn in China and take part in various games from different parts of the world.

In February, a 'LOVE ALL' event was planned and organised by Transform participants, an event in the young people's own community to spread love, positivity and acceptance. It was a thought provoking evening, attended by family, friends and neighbours in the local community with lots of learning, leadership skills, time management, organisational skills demonstrated by the young people. Feedback from the community was that it was a 'brilliant youth focused event'.



The cohort also took part in a teambuilding trip to Extreme Jump. Young people mixed well, had a fun experience while building positive relationships, followed by some group work discussions.

Excitement is building as the programme develops, plans are in place for two residentials, to complete an OCN Level 2 in Personal Success and Well Being, participation in an extensive summer programme and other team building activities and workshop sessions.

