



TRANSFORM

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

Youth Link Schools & Oasis Cohorts

Youth Link Schools Cohort

This Transform cohort involved a partnership between St. John the Baptist's College in Portadown and Brownlow Integrated College in Craigavon, 25 young people completed the project which concluded with a one night residential at Greenhill YMCA residential centre in Newcastle. The group enjoyed taking part in the organised activities, going into Newcastle town centre, visiting the amusements, making s'mores on a campfire and participating in wet bouldering at Bloody Bridge. The young people thoroughly enjoyed the residential even with the freezing water during the wet bouldering activity, it was a fantastic way to finish off the project with the group. The young people achieved two OCN qualifications during this project, an OCN Level 2 in Handling Life's Conflict and an OCN Level 2 Certificate in Personal Success & Well-Being which explored the 3 key themes of Personal Development, Good Relations and Active Citizenship.



Transform is continuing the successful partnership with St. John the Baptist's College with a new cohort of 29 young people. During September and October, the group have been building relationships, teambuilding and getting the Transform room decorated to make it their own space. The young people and Youth Workers are looking forward to the coming months on Transform, completing the OCN, taking part in games and activities, attending trips and hopefully attend a residential.



Youth Link Oasis Cohort

This Transform cohort in partnership with Oasis Youth Centre, Portadown commenced late last year with 22 young people from Portadown and the surrounding rural areas, of different nationalities and community backgrounds. We were fortunate to enjoy over 5 months of face to face sessions in the youth centre, with group sessions, volunteering opportunities, one to one mentoring sessions, and a trip to Lisburn Bowl. During these months we worked together on team building skills and communication skills, which helped in our switch over to online delivery in April.

In April we all adapted to online delivery with OCN sessions, Drop – In sessions and mentoring all taking place over Zoom! The group started to compete in the Zoom Olympics from May, which had them doing some whacky activities in their homes including: Bring Me, Charades, Name That Tune and our personal favourite, the Transform Trivia Quiz! We had the opportunity to deliver Transform merchandise and care packages to all our participants in June, which included resources to help look after their mental health and wellbeing. We even managed to get a group photo with everyone in their new Transform merchandise which was designed by the young people! With the good weather in August we hosted "Pizza in the Park" sessions with small groups who enjoyed the chance to hang out and spend time together in person, socially distanced of course!



All along, these young people showed great resilience during these unprecedented times and were fully dedicated to Transform, completing an OCN Level 2 Certificate in Personal Success and Wellbeing, giving each session and activity their all and providing significant support to each other even through these difficult months. Our project concluded with our Celebration Event in September. The day was very memorable, with a marquee and food truck, some great music and the presentation of our own certificates and the Zoom Olympics medals and prizes, which was a special opportunity for us to recognise the amazing commitment of these young people to Transform.

