

# YOUTH PRESS

## Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight Working to Enable Young People to Fulfill Their True Potential

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The St Thomas Centre, 20 Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9EF. 01962 852307 www.ychiow.org.uk



From everyone at Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight, we'd like to wish you all a happy, safe and restful festive break!

### NEW YEAR, NEW IDEAS?

If you're looking for some new ideas for activities to offer the young people who attend your youth club, group or project in the New Year, why not get in touch and see what we can do to support you? We offer our members access to a wide range of activity workshops ranging from a one-off session to workshops that run over a number of weeks. Here's just a taster of some of the activities we offer...

Juggling and Circus Skills  
Positive Images  
Healthy Lifestyles  
Going Green  
Chic or Unique  
Banner / T-Shirt Painting  
Initiative Challenges and Team Games

Call us on 01962 852307 or email [fo.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:fo.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk) for more information or to discuss booking a workshop.

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## UNDER THE SPOT LIGHT: CAT MARK

We asked some of the organisations who have already been involved in the CAT Mark Project to share their thoughts and experiences with us to help give other people a better idea of what it's all about...

**The Base Youth Centre: they've had a CAT Mark Assessment and some of their members are CAT Mark Assessors.**

"Having had Youth Clubs Hants and Isle of Wight train several of our teenagers to be Young Leaders and Cat Mark Assessors, the Base thought it would be helpful to the running of the youth centre to be Cat Marked. We thought we had a pretty good set up and that there was very little to be changed.

When we were assessed it made us realise that we were not perfect and we were picked up on our lack of Equal Opportunities. This was rectified and when we were reassessed and found out we had passed we were over the moon. It proves that even though you may think you are doing everything right there is always room for improvement. We are very proud at The Base to have our award on the wall for all to see."

*Jeanne Marie Steeles The Base, Hook*

**Enham E2E: they've had a CAT Mark Assessment**

"As the first e2e (Entry to Employment) provider in Hampshire to be CAT accredited we were excited about the young people coming in to see our provision. The whole process was very well organised and the young people asking the questions were very involved and very passionate. It was great to get feedback about how they viewed us and what improvements we could make. All three of Enham's e2e centres have now passed and I actively recommend the CAT Mark to all of our partners dealing with young people."

*Michael Steel, Enham E2E Centres*

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## CAT MARK AWARD CEREMONY CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS

**Congratulations to all the organisations and individuals who received recognition for their involvement in the CAT Mark Project at our Award Ceremony which took place on Thursday 12th November.**

11 organisations received their CAT Mark Awards at this event and the CAT Mark Assessors also received certificates in recognition of their contribution to the scheme.

The event was well attended and awards were presented by John Coughlan, Head of Children's Services at Hampshire County Council.



If you want to find out more about the CAT Mark call the team on 01962 852307 or email [ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk).

## • FAQ • FAQ • FAQ • FAQ • FAQ • FAQ • FAQ • FAQ •

This section of our newsletter aims to provide some information and food for thought about those topics that come up time and again when we're out and about visiting you in your clubs, groups and projects. If you want to discuss any of the information on this page in more detail then give us a call on 01962 852307.

**The youth work session has ended, you are having your wash up session and you notice one of the young people has not been collected by their parents; what do you do?** Your first temptation may be to invite the young person back into the youth building, ring their parents and wait for them to come and collect them. This is a natural response, but what do you do if this happens week after week?

Well I suppose this depends on how you define your Duty of Care, when does it start and when does it stop? If it stops when the club closes what message are you giving by asking this young person back in again?

What sort of conversation do you have with the parents when they do turn up?

How do you ensure this is a safe situation for you and the young person? Perhaps you ask another member of staff to stay as well to ensure you are not lone working with a young person. But how does this affect your personal plans for the rest of the evening?

If this is a one off situation then perhaps it is a genuine emergency and needs to be dealt with as such. In which case are you the appropriate organisation to deal with it or do you need to involve another more appropriate organisation?

If this is the norm, (and many youth workers tell us this happens all too often) i.e. this young person is persistently not picked up on time, perhaps suggesting to the parents that this potentially puts their young person at risk, because he/she is no longer your responsibility and has therefore been abandoned by them, might bring home the seriousness of your concern.

This can be argued as a case of neglect, a form of child abuse, and as such must be reported appropriately. You can argue that under your Child Protection Policy and the latest legislation you have no choice but to take action. Whilst I'm sure this would be a final solution used after you have exhausted every other tactic it nevertheless helps frame the nature of the problem. It, of course, only works if the parents are clear about when your Duty of Care starts and, more importantly, when it finishes.

Making the staff, management, parents and young people aware of this on a regular basis makes making a decision, given the above scenario, more straight forward if not easier.

## • JOB VACANCY • JOB VACANCY • JOB VACANCY •

**Vacancy:** CAT Mark Administrator

**Hours:** 5 hours per week.

**Salary and Benefits:** £8.89 per hour plus 5 weeks holiday entitlement and access to BUPA private health care.

We are looking to employ an energetic and experienced office administrator who is numerate, literate, has experience with Microsoft Office and a flexible approach to working. We need office cover at our base in Winchester for 5 hours a week, hours by arrangement with the Cat Mark Development Officer and to the mutual benefit of both the administrator and YCHLOW.

Call 01962 852307 or email [ce.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:ce.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk) for an application pack or more details.

# • Training • Training • Training • Training • Training •

## CAT MARK SUPPORT WORKER TRAINING

Interested in becoming a Cat Mark Support Worker? Our next training event is on Saturday January 16<sup>th</sup> at our offices in Southgate Street, Winchester from 10-2. It is a great opportunity to support young people through the Cat Mark process, widen your own skills and experience and meet other support workers.

The Cat Mark is a mark of quality, awarded by young people, for any organisations providing services to young people. Cat Mark assessors are young people aged between 13 and 25 who understand the needs of young people and can use this knowledge to assess the services that are designed for them.

Support Workers are volunteers who support young people through the Cat Mark training and assessment process.

Interested? Contact the Cat Mark Team on 01962 852307 or email [ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:ac3.ychiow@ukonline.co.uk).

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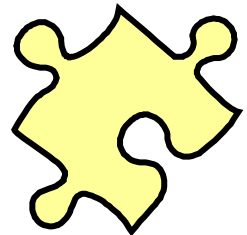
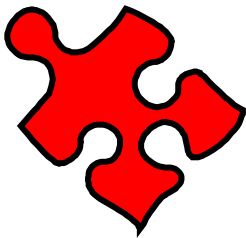
## TRAINING PROGRAMME

Taking place at the YCHLOW offices in Winchester...

### Risk Assessment

An introduction to the concept of Risk Assessment as a method to minimise risk and create a safe environment for young people and workers.

*Saturday 10th July 2010, 10am-4pm*



### Child Protection (Safeguarding)

Understand the basics of Child Protection, how to spot signs and symptoms of abuse and what action to take.

*Saturday 13th March 2010, 10am-4pm*

### Dealing with Challenging Behaviour

Tips and techniques about how to handle those tricky situations where young people's behaviour is verging on being 'out of control'.

*Saturday 27th February 2010, 9:30am-4:30pm*

*Saturday 19th June 2010, 9:30am-4:30pm*

Taking place at the Red Cross Centre, Winnall Close, Winchester, SO23 0LB...

### First Aid

A one day course to help you get to grips with the basics of being a First Aider.

*Saturday 15th May 2010, 9:30am-4:30pm*

Don't forget about our tailor-made training options too!!!

