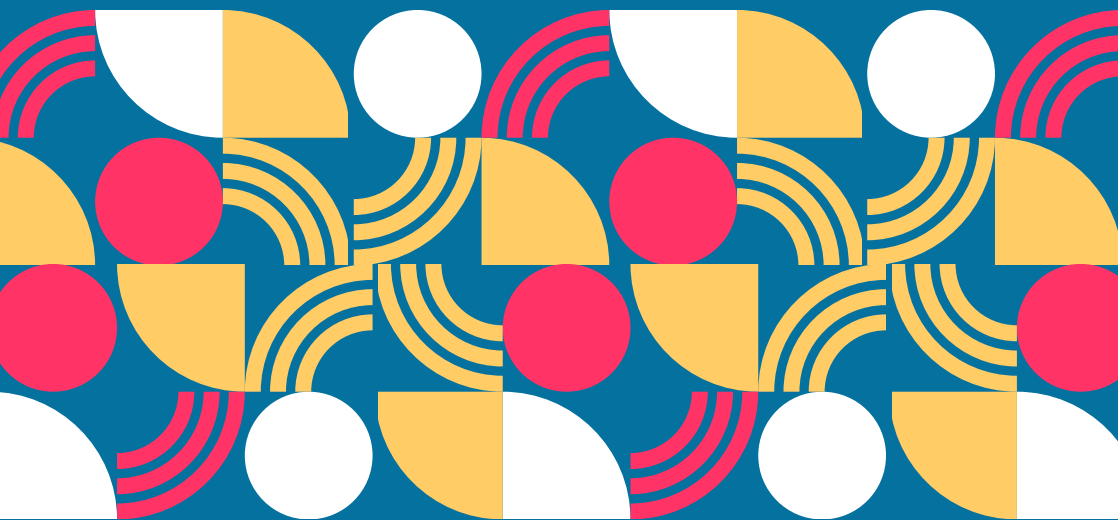


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LEATHERHEAD YOUTH PROJECT

# SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN BOOKHAM

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# CONTENTS

- 2 About LYP
- 3 LYP in Bookham
- 4 Support Provided
- 5 Robert's Story
- 6 Bookham Projects
- 8 Running Costs





# ABOUT LYP

Leatherhead Youth Project (LYP) is a local charity providing innovative youth services in Leatherhead, Bookham and across Mole Valley.

Our aim is to respond to local needs and offer valuable support for young people aged 11 - 24 to help them overcome any barriers they are facing and build a brighter future.

LYP's provision for young people includes:

- Youth cafés in Leatherhead and Bookham
- Access to counselling and emotional wellbeing sessions
- Targeted evening projects
- Tailored maths & english tuition
- Opportunities to give back to their community through our social action project
- Offering new experiences through residential and day trips



# LYP IN BOOKHAM

In 2016 LYP launched its youth work provision in Bookham with the support of St Nicolas Church, Eastwick Road Church and Bookham Baptist Church.

LYP's drop-in youth café, BYouth is situated in the centre of Bookham and provides a safe, positive space for young people aged 11 - 17 to meet friends, enjoy a variety of activities and get to know our youth workers.

BYouth is LYP's flagship project in Bookham and provides young people with the opportunity to access additional projects to build their confidence, gain new skills and access tailored support to meet their individual needs.



**2,587**

10 - 19 year olds live in Fetcham, Bookham and Effingham

(2021 Census data)



Howard of Effingham is the **2nd largest** secondary school in Mole Valley

(gov.uk, schools information)



LYP has been delivering dedicated youth provision for 11 - 17 year olds in Bookham for **8 years**

# SUPPORT PROVIDED

## Community Youth Worker - Bookham Lead

LYP's Bookham Lead is responsible for managing BYouth, our after school drop-in youth café in Bookham, offering targeted evening projects and working in partnership with the local churches to provide christian faith-based activities. Where appropriate they also offer 1:1 sessions to support young people with specific needs.

Working alongside our Leatherhead Youth Workers, the Bookham Lead helps to deliver residential trips, social action projects and day trips to engage young people aged 11 - 17 in our local community.

## Bookham Sessional Worker

Our Bookham Sessional Worker helps to support the Bookham Lead in delivering BYouth and our evening projects each week.

They play a vital role in getting to know the young people and identifying their needs.

## Between September 2023 - August 2024, LYP...

provided

**400**

hours of front  
line project  
delivery in  
Bookham

provided

**333**

counselling and  
emotional well-being  
sessions at **3** schools in  
Bookham and Effingham

saw

**103**

different  
young people  
attend  
BYouth

# ROBERT'S STORY

When Robert started attending BYouth they initially found it difficult to connect socially with other young people. From the start Robert was open about their neurodiversity and shared how they have been struggling with bullying in school and their identity, as well as finding it difficult to make friends.

Early on it was clear that Robert valued BYouth as they attended every week. The youth workers encouraged them to engage with the sessions, activities and the other young people. As the relationship developed between Robert and the youth workers, Robert was able to open up more and receive support for the issues they were experiencing.

As time went on it became clear that Robert felt safe and happy at BYouth and they treated it like a second home. It gave Robert a consistent space to have a break from other areas of their life where they felt under pressure, allowing them to play and be a child.

Robert still experiences difficulties due to their neurodiversity, but has grown in confidence and has access to a secure support network. They love to contribute to group discussions and feel empowered to share their thoughts and experiences without worry of judgement.

# BOOKHAM PROJECTS



**Between September 2023 - August 2024 we ran the following projects to support young people in Bookham. Our projects are continuously reviewed and updated to reflect young people's current needs.**

## **BYouth**

Open twice a week during term time, BYouth provides a welcoming space for 11 - 17 year olds after school.

## **Connect**

Connect is a targeted support group providing an opportunity for young people to discuss relevant topics together.

## **Explore**

Explore welcomes young people from all backgrounds to discuss Christian faith-based topics and reflect on their own values and beliefs.

## **Making Good**

Our social action project Making Good runs three times a year to provide opportunities for young people to give back to their local community.

## **Freestyle**

For many young people, our Easter residential trip is their only time away from home all year and provides long-lasting memories.

## **Fish**

In partnership with the local churches, LYP helps to run a Christian Union at Howard of Effingham secondary school.



## Next Level

Run in partnership with the local churches in Bookham, Next Level is a youth-led Christian worship night which takes place once a month.

## Year 6 Transition Support

During the summer term, we deliver assemblies and workshops in local schools to help Year 6s feel prepared for secondary school.

## Summer Activities

The summer holidays enable us to offer larger trips and experiences that are not possible during term time, such as a day out in Brighton and going to Thorpe Park.

## Counselling & Emotional Well-Being Support

Our Counselling and Emotional Well-Being team provide early intervention support for local young people across Mole Valley, including at schools in Bookham and Effingham.

**“BYouth is amazing, you are sure to be welcome whether you’re new or not, and it never fails to cheer me up on a bad day.”**

Young person



# RUNNING COSTS

From **September 2023 - August 2024**, well in excess of **£50,000** was invested into LYP's work in Bookham to help cover...

Full time  
Bookham  
Lead's Salary

Bookham  
Sessional  
Worker's  
Salary

Management  
and running of  
all Bookham  
projects

Regularly  
monitoring  
young people's  
Levels of Need

Providing 1:1  
support for  
young people  
where needed

Meeting  
with local  
stakeholders

Reporting  
and tracking  
safeguarding  
needs

Developing  
projects to  
meet emerging  
needs

**“During these difficult times young peoples' support needs and school absences have increased. Despite not having a dedicated youth facility, LYP has continued to support young people in Bookham wherever possible by running smaller sessions at local venues and continuing to work with local schools. LYP is a vital resource - investing in our young people and improving the social cohesion of the community.”**

David Cox OBE  
Chair Bookham Youth & Community Association  
Simon Edge  
Chair Bookhams' Residents Association

## Future Plans

LYP will continue providing vital youth work services in Bookham to support local young people and respond to their needs.

The development of a purpose-built Youth and Community Centre by Surrey County Council will enable us to expand LYP's offering and increase the provision available for young people in Bookham.





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Leatherhead Youth Project

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