

Youth Offending Service: (PAYP) Review

This review summarises the outcomes from three AdventureImpact Taster Courses run for the Oxfordshire YOS Prevention. Four half-day sessions were run over a 4-8 week period involving activities such as canoeing, indoor climbing, team games, archery, fencing and mountain biking.

14 referrals were made through the Positive Activities for Young People scheme. They ranged in age from 11 to 15 and the majority had received informal warnings from police or been involved in minor offences. The young people did not know each other before the courses and came from across Central and South Oxfordshire.

During the courses, participants undertook the ASDAN Activities Award. This involved planning and reviewing activities, providing and receiving feedback from peers, summarising their achievements and collecting evidence of involvement.

Feedback was received from referrers, the young people and their parent/guardian. It was collected pre-course, at course completion and post course (approx 4 weeks after).

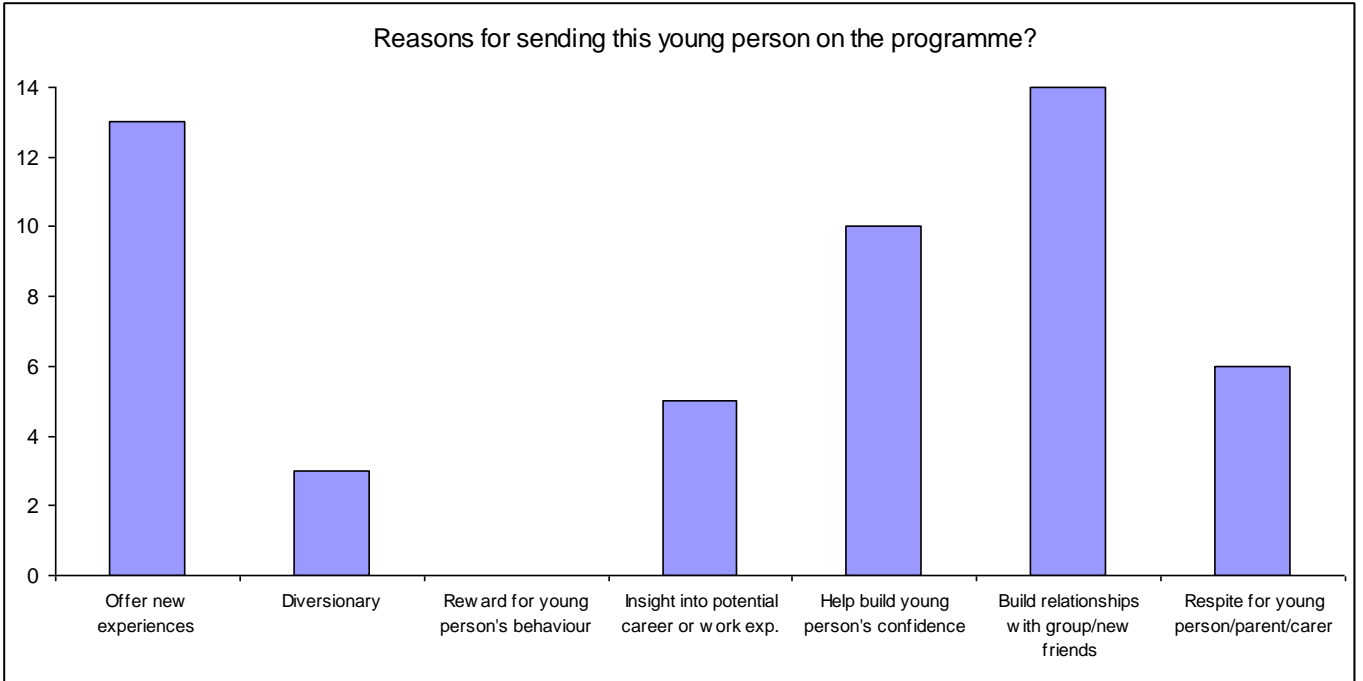
Summary of Outcomes

[Reference to relevant Every Child Matters Aims in blue]

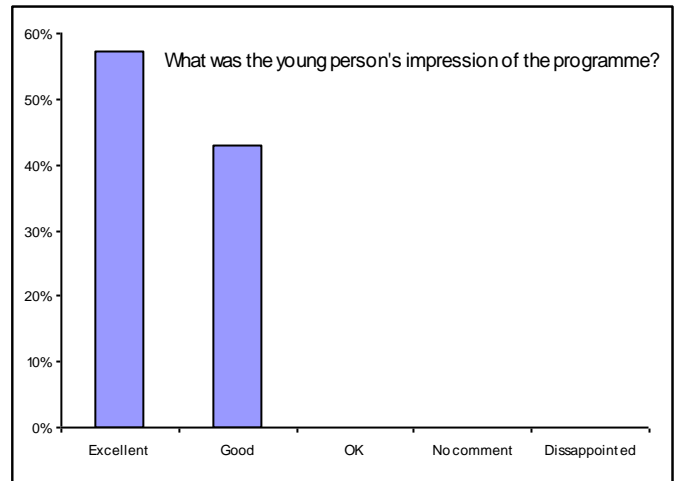
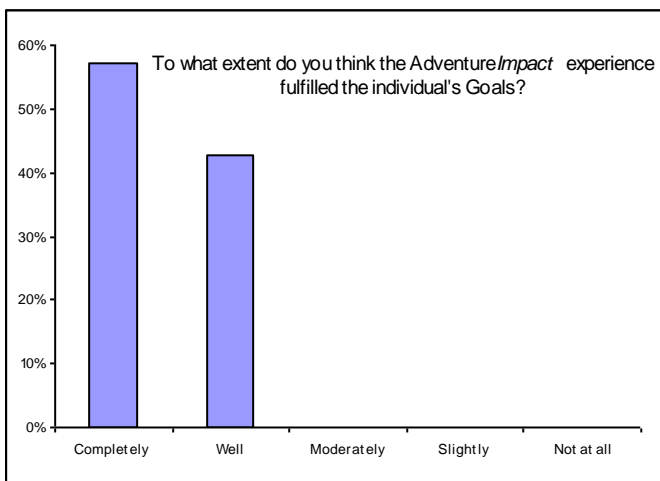
- 100% of participants achieved their goals for the course either 'Completely' or 'Well' according to referrer feedback. *[Physically healthy]*
- 85% attendance for the programme, with 4% drop out rate.
- 100% of young people felt the course has helped them make better use of their leisure time. *[Healthy lifestyles & Engage in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school]*
- 100% of young people felt the course has helped them in their confidence and in how they feel about themselves. *[Mentally and emotionally healthy & Develop self-confidence]*
- 9 of the 14 participants successfully completed their ASDAN Short Course Award and received a nationally recognised certificate. *[Achieve stretching national educational standards at secondary school]*
- Referrer reported that over 90% of participants improved their relational skills, attitude and self-esteem. *[Develop positive relationships]*
- 4 of the young people have progressed to a further programme with Adventure Plus, 2 signed up to come on activity holidays, 1 joined a fencing club and 1 is coming on work experience placement.

Referrer Feedback

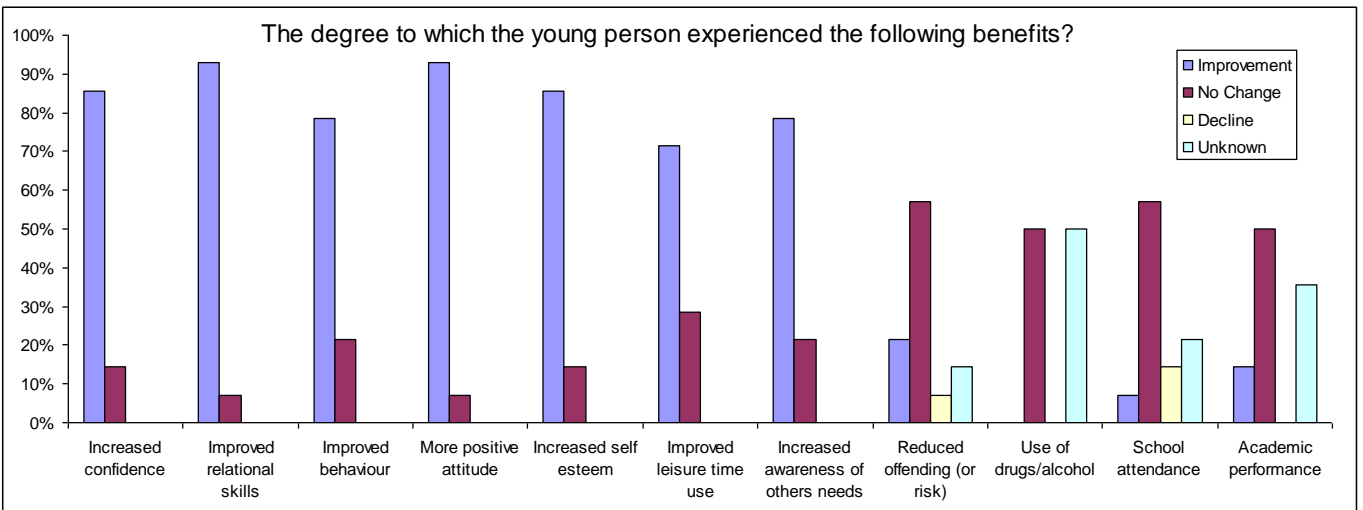
Initial Goals for the Taster Course were set for each young person by referrers:



Achievement of Goals & YP's Impression of Programme:



Benefits to Young Person:



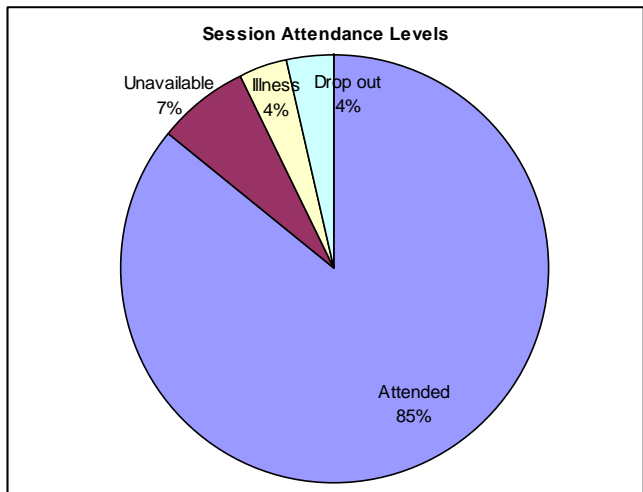
Young Person Attendance & Feedback

Attendance:

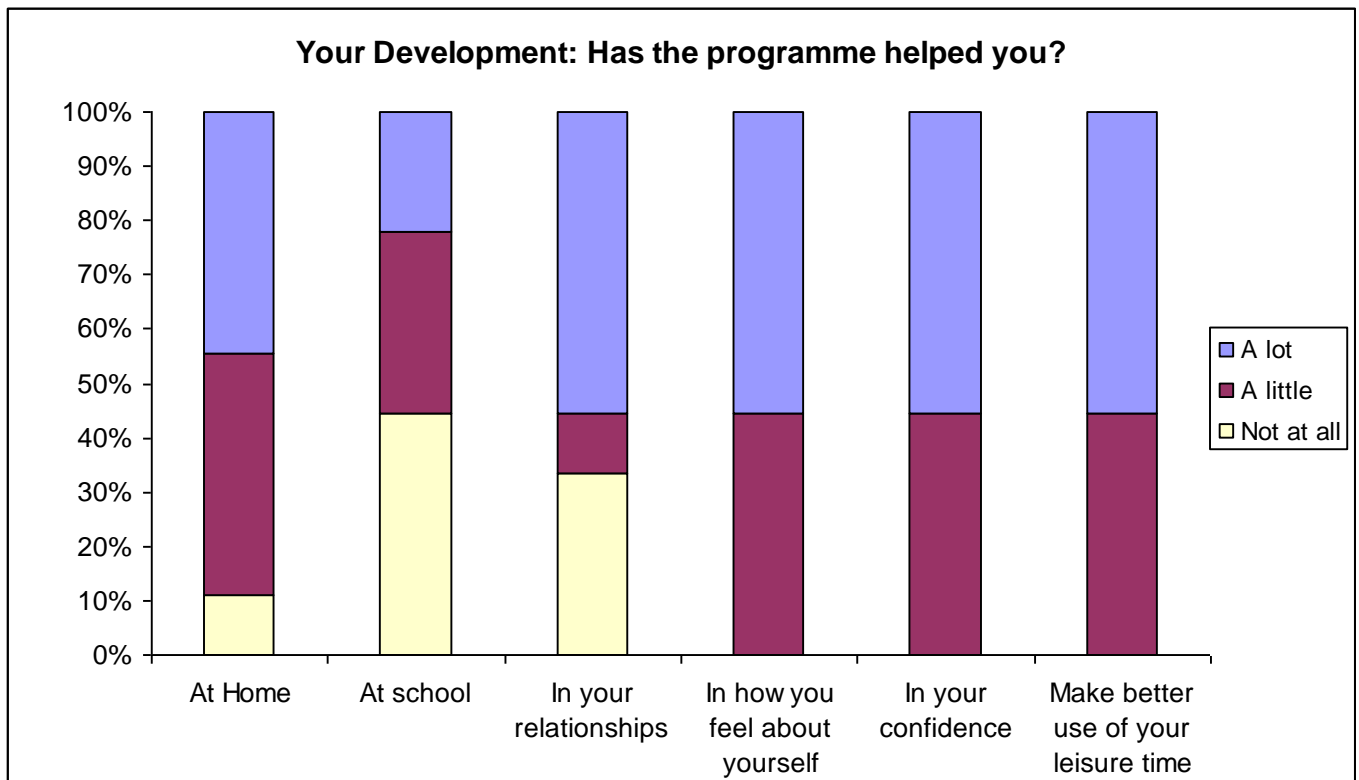
The attendance level was 86%.

Non-attendance was due to:

- Unavailability [7%] (exams, moving home, transport not showing up)
- Illness [4%]
- Drop Out [4%].



Course Completion Feedback from Young People:



Post Course Feedback from Young People

Looking back, what did you get from the programme?

- *New friends, ASDAN Award, fun.*
- *Friends. Motivation at school to be good.*
- *New friends. Helped me feel better.*

How do you feel you changed positively from going on an Adventure**Impact** Programme?

- *Getting on better at school.*
- *I've got more skills in co-operating with people. I feel better about myself.*
- *Better school behaviour.*
- *Getting on better with other kids and behaving more.*

Parent/Guardian Feedback

Post-Course Feedback from Parents:

- *A massive change in his outlook on life, he was so happy with himself.*
- *Great, every child should be going.*
- *Thank you all for letting him do the Adventure Plus because it has changed him big time and it's taken a lot of stress off of me.*
- *He has changed for the best at home and especially at school. He only has to do 3 subjects at school and he has gone to every lesson.*
- *Big brother says he's not as abusive.*

Case Studies

Craig, aged 11, was referred on the Adventure**Impact** Taster Course because he had started shoplifting, mainly for food, as his family have little money and little to eat at home. His mother's boyfriend had recently been laid off and with 3 children to look after and no money coming in from Craig's father, the family was in desperate financial position.

Craig is diagnosed with ADHD and suffers from not seeing his father, who disappears in and out of the picture. He also has low confidence due to being bullied from a young age and has not had many opportunities in life.

During the course Craig threw himself into the activities commenting in his ASDAN book "100% BRILLIANT" and "Nearly the funnest time ever". His comment to other possible users was "appreciate what you are about to do". His mother commented about positive changes in him: "A massive change in his outlook on life. He was so happy with himself."

After completing the course he was keen to do more. He came on an Adventure *Plus* a activity day with his step brother and they are both booked to come on our Activity Holiday for 8-12 year olds this summer. These are valuable opportunities to develop the good work started on the course and build many more healthy, encouraging relationships.

Peter, aged 15, had started hanging out with the wrong crowd and ended up receiving an informal warning from the police. Peter suffers from learning difficulties and was referred to us to build his confidence and build healthier relationships.

He successfully completed the course which resulted in him progressing to an Adventure**Impact** Discovery Programme. He enjoyed the activities so much that he pro-actively sought out a work experience placement, with Adventure *Plus* and organised this with his school. He has also shown a keen interest to come back and volunteer with us in the future.

For further information about Adventure**Impact** programmes please contact:
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