

South Woodham Ferrers report September - December 2025

Highlights from this term:

- We recently joined the Jack Petchey award scheme, meaning young people can nominate their peers for an award. One of our young leaders at South Woodham won, due to her amazing efforts and great attitude in helping out and supporting younger attendees. The winner of the award is granted £300 to spend within the youth club, she used this money to create Christmas gift bags for the younger group and hired sumo wrestling for a youth club session. The young people were so grateful for their gift bags and had so much fun trying sumo wrestling.
- We have broadened the indoor activities with it being cold outside to a mini basketball hoop and giant badminton, the young people love both and often come up with competitions of their own for a session.
- We worked in partnership with KeepIt100, who hosted an art workshop where the young people designed feathers to be used for an art sculpture that will be placed in Chelmsford. The sculpture aims to honor victims of knife crime. This workshop allowed young people to have meaningful conversations around knife crime and they created some beautiful pieces to be used for the sculpture.
- A few of our young people completed their DofE volunteering time with us. We were able to give them glowing feedback to send off due to their dedication and positivity within the youth club.



Most common topics of discussion:

- Friendships, school and aspirations.
- Young people here are very open with staff due to the fantastic rapport that has been built overtime.
- We often speak generally about what's going on in everyone's lives, young people are always excited to share their achievements with staff who celebrate them loudly.

Specific support given to young people this term:

- Young people in our second session were applying for college and doing mock exams this term. We were able to support them with both - whether that meant helping them revise exam questions with flashcards held by staff, or watching their dance auditions to help boost their confidence.
- Staff with musical theatre backgrounds were able to offer helpful insight to a few young people who were applying specifically to drama sixth form/colleges.
- Young people have built great rapport with youth workers here, meaning they feel comfortable to ask them for support when they are having issues with school, friendships, or anything else they may have going on.
- We have supported young people in creating CVs this term; with many of our second session being 16 they are actively looking for part-time jobs so they were really grateful for this support. We have also held mock interview sessions with them, which will make real-life interviews feel less daunting.



What does engagement look like here?

- Young people often decide how they would like to spend their session at this club. Youth workers set out different games and areas for when they arrive, allowing them to engage in sports, colouring and crafts, or to relax on our new giant bean bags!
- Nearer the end of a session youth workers tend to run a group game. This may be a game of dodgeball or small competitions. A competition youth workers did recently, was for the young people to put a paper plate on their head and attempt to draw an image. This was quite a challenge but invited lots of laughter from the young people.
- We have recently started baking with young people in the first session, which they have been really enjoying as an alternative activity.
- Young people have a great attitude towards the staff and venue here and are always keen to try new activities.



Next term we are looking forward to:

- Supporting our young people through mock exams and GCSE's.
- Building on new skills in activities within the club such as baking.
- Developing current activities we provide through young peoples feedback.
- Continuing to support the young people when they come to us with issues.
- Building new relationships with young people who have more recently signed up.