

# South Woodham Ferrers report Jan - March 2025

## Highlights from this term:

- Volunteers from the older session continue to lead and inspire young people in the younger session.
- When the club first started, most young people came here for the activities. As relationships and trust have built, we have found that young people are seeking advice more frequently and are being very open in their discussions. Their willingness to ask for help and to show their vulnerability demonstrates how safe and secure they feel in this youth club.

## Most common topics of discussion:

Friendships, families, hobbies, aspirations and goals.



## What does engagement look like here?

- We offer a mix of activities, arts, craft, sports, games & team challenges. Young people are very receptive to new activities and they enjoy getting involved with everything.
- Young people rush through the door to look at what activities are on offer that evening. They are always eager to get stuck in.
- Young people are very respectful to their peers and to youth workers
- Young people are supportive of others and ensure that everyone is involved in activities, games & conversations.



## Specific support given to young people this term:

- Support and open discussion around puberty, periods, different experiences, where and when to seek help.
- Help with revision for mock exams
- Confidence building for drama/singing exams
- Navigating healthy & unhealthy relationships and friendships

## WOW moments:

- Young volunteers come to youth club prepared with their own ideas for sessions and activities that they think will engage young people. These always go down well as they all know each other well so know what will engage them.
- There is a great sense of community in both groups, with young people always willing to support, encourage and help their peers, as well as helping staff. They respect everyone here and their positive attitudes help create a safe, friendly environment where everyone can thrive.





### **What were the biggest challenges this term?**

Numbers were lower over the winter but started picking up again once the evenings became lighter. We find this across a number of clubs, sometimes due to young people not wanting to walk to the club when its dark, cold or raining.

We also know that we have a lot of young people who love paying football and other sports outside at youth club, but they have started to return now that they can play outside again.

Average attendance per week = 17

### **Plans for summer term**

We are planning some community outreach projects for the summer term to help increase our reach to young people and invite more people to attend:

- Youth workers will be doing detached youth work a few times over the next half term to engage with young people in local parks & give out information about youth club
- Open days for Primary schools - we are working with local schools to invite Year 5 & 6 students along to a youth club open evening. This gives them a taster of what youth club is like. They can then continue attending once they reach the age of 10.
- We plan to run a football event for young people one Tuesday before youth club. We would promote this widely, gets lots of young people involved and then share information about youth club.

