



# Youth Work in the Nairn area

October 2018 to March 2019

## Celebrating Achievement and Valuing Young Voices



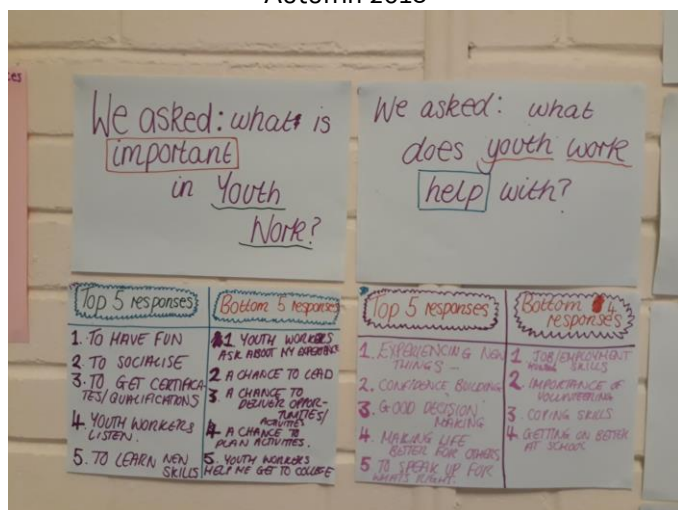
Highland wide survey of Young People  
Autumn 2018



During this period, the local youth team has worked with over 100 individual young people aged between 11 and 21 amounting to 1771 meaningful contacts

In total there were approx 3878 hours of engagement with young people

And these took place on 143 separate occasions at the following locations: Nairn Youth Café and Community Centre, Nairn Academy and a variety of other and outdoor locations including Delnies Community Forest.



# Some of what's been happening and what's planned

## What's been happening locally – Nairn Youth Café

The Youth Café continues to be a popular meeting place for young people from S1-S3. In anticipation of welcoming the new S1's on Wednesday nights from mid- June, a "Cake, Cola & Conduct" session was hosted where young people were served refreshments and asked to contribute their thoughts on what made youth café a good place to attend, what was important to them in their code of conduct and what ideas they had for the future. As an extra result we now have volunteers to visit P7 classes and tell them about youth café, answer any questions and help with a special welcome session in June. A movie night and an afternoon BBQ will also form part of the Schools Out programme this July.

## What's been happening locally – Nairn Youth Forum

Opportunities for young people to have their say include: Kimberley Brown from Nairn being elected to the Scottish Youth Parliament; consultation with PSE classes to help shape the new Highland Youth Work Strategy; support for the Nairn Links consultation; the start of a conversation to inform potential plans for Riverside Park. Watch out for the launch of #nairnskatepark.

At the Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey Area Youth Voice Conference in December attendees met with representatives of Nairn Community Planning Committee to discuss young people's priorities. There was general agreement and overarching importance for young people to access safe places where they can gather and meet informally, or plan and host activities which are of interest to them, particularly creative activities which are not as plentiful as the very good sporting provision in the area.

## Young Peoples Quotes

*"I really loved today. I liked speaking to people I usually wouldn't" (speak to) Ref Area Conference*

*"Youth Café is chilled. The leaders are chilled. It's a safe place to meet up with my friends."*



## A vision for high quality youth work across Highland

The current Youth Work policy has been in place since 2007, and has stood the test of time.

However, stakeholders including young people, statutory and third sectors have agreed there needs to be a refreshed strategy to reaffirm core youth work principles and reflect emerging and changing needs of young Highlanders.

Since autumn 2018 much activity has occurred to contribute towards this new youth work strategy – surveys, focus groups, stakeholder engagement and conversations.

Watch out for a new youth work strategy for 2019 onwards, which will describe how the following will be achieved:

- ✓ *clear ways for young people to become involved in youth work activity*
- ✓ *young people have a voice in youth work and an influence in decisions and services which affect them*
- ✓ *support for young people to progress from youth work into other positive destinations such as employment or further education.*

## Some useful information

### Local contacts

Shona McDonald Youth Development Officer  
Shona.mcdonald@highlifehighland.com  
0782511 6484

### Social Media

FB page - Nairn Youth Development

