

CHILD FRIENDLY LEEDS ENRICHMENT

Autumn 2019



Images from CFL Live Aug 2019

Who we are ?

Child Friendly Leeds
www.childfriendlyleeds.com

The Enrichment Team is part of the wider Child Friendly Leeds (CFL) Communication and Engagement Team.

We spend most of our time out and about, meeting partners, families and working with children and young people.

When we are not doing that we are hard at work planning and coordinating a range of different projects and events for care experienced children and young people living in Leeds.

Our aim is to support our children and young people to:

Enjoy life enriching opportunities which they would not otherwise have

Make positive memories in childhood by having fun growing up

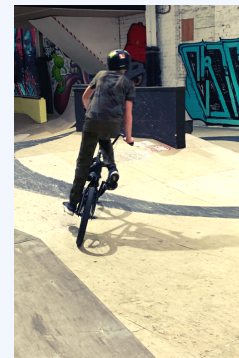
Enjoy shared family experiences which build positive and stable relationships

Learn essential social, emotional and practical life skills

Improve their self-esteem through engaging in new experiences, meeting new people and making new relationships



Think Like A Pony



LS-TEN Skate session



Beavers Fun Day

What we do ?

We work with with many businesses and organisations throughout Leeds and West Yorkshire, developing exciting and purposeful projects, day activities and events for care experienced young people and young adults growing up and living in Leeds.

Through the generosity of these organisations, we are able to provide tickets to different events throughout the year. The Enrichment Team coordinates these opportunities alongside our colleagues in the fostering and kinship teams.

We work with children to hear their voice, to find out what is important to them and then support them to get involved with things that matter to them.

Read on and find out more!

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 Get **in touch** and stay **updated**

by signing up to our **free** E-bulletins at

cflenrichment@leeds.gov.uk



PROJECTS

Water Sports

Child Friendly Leeds would like to say a big thank you to our amazing ambassadors in the Central Yorkshire Scouts and also to the staff team that voluntarily gave up their weekend to deliver water sports activities for us at their Aldwark Site this July. We invited a group of young people to come with us for the day where they worked together as a team steering the raft, kayaking, playing football, and finished the day off with a barbecue.

This was a particularly special project for us, not only was it the first time we had had the opportunity to deliver a water sports activity day but it was also the first time that we have organised a project where care experienced young people and unaccompanied asylum seekers were brought together and enjoyed sharing their different experiences.



The respect they showed each other throughout the day was inspirational. For half of the group English was their second language, by the end of the day they were laughing with each other, splashing water and encouraging each other to jump in the river off an upturned inflatable. This 'joining together' of two quite diverse groups felt like a great achievement.

"(*) really enjoyed her day with you guys. She was very excited to tell us what she had done and how amazing it all was. Thank you so much for having her and giving her some great experiences. Let us know if there is anything else taking place that you think she might be able to take part in."

Green Guardians

For the second year running we had the opportunity to support a group of unaccompanied asylum seekers to participate in a guided nature walk in the Malham Valley.

Aaron taught the young people about the landmarks, the plants, the wildlife and old folklore from the region.

The young people particularly enjoyed learning about the fairies at Janet's Foss and despite the 'typical' British weather, got absorbed in taking photos at the waterfall and hammering their good luck pennies into the tree stump to appease Jennet, the Queen of the Fairies.



“ Unhappy to get out of the minibus because of my hair, but glad I did! The woods were my favourite. Janet Foss was like the Amazon. I had a really good time.”

Skelton Grange

This year CFL are excited to be working with staff at Skelton to deliver a number of environmental activity days that will benefit children from different services across Leeds. In September, the staff delivered an outdoor learning session for children and young people with disabilities.

They had the opportunity to experience pond dipping, den building, playing in the mud kitchen and finished the session around the campfire making popcorn. Everyone who attended got the chance to socialise, communicate and work together to achieve a collective goal.



“ Just to say thank you so very much for letting us know about the adventure in Skelton Grange. (*) had a fabulous time. The group that we were with was fantastic. The children all got along really well. In fact one of the carers set up a What's App group to keep in touch. I hope that you like the photos. These adventures make wonderful memories for these very special children. Thank you 😊”

TICKETS FEEDBACK

Leeds Town Hall

Thank you to Leeds Town Hall who have supported us with tickets to numerous events throughout the year!



Junior Warrior

For the second year our partners at Total Warrior offered CFI tickets for this summers Junior Warrior event at Bramham Park. One of the hubs entered their own team and we very much enjoyed hearing about all of their achievements!



Sports

It has been an exciting summer of sports this year and thanks to our generous ambassadors, children and young people from across Leeds have had the opportunity to attend some great events and in some cases have a once in a life time experience. Here is some of the feedback we have received.

AJ Bell Triathlon

“It was our first outing together, under the Independent Visitors scheme and the live sport was a great ice breaker and really sparked (*) imagination. It was especially inspiring to see how well the local triathletes competed against world class competition. Thanks to this experience our next visit is going to be a parkrun!”



ICC World Cup Cricket

“Firstly thank you for the tickets. We had an amazing day, it was lovely to be able to experience the atmosphere so really appreciate this opportunity. We would never have been able to experience this otherwise. It was really interesting to see the children slowly getting excited and as the game went along: from being not bothered to cheer for the teams to dancing to the drum beats. It was the first time we all experienced being part of a Mexican wave in the stadium. It was a really good day thank you for the opportunity.”



Leeds Rhinos

“I went with my fostered young person to the Leeds Rhino event. My young person is an unaccompanied asylum-seeker from a part of the world where he has not experienced anything like a rugby sports tournament so it was a completely new experience for him. The weather was not ideal, there were downpours of rain but it abated. The thing about sport is that we can all unite with the feeling of a game, it's a happy feeling. The rugby game was not difficult to follow and to see our local heroes thrash the opponents Catalans Dragons was a huge boost to my young person's sense of where he belonged in Leeds. He was beaming with pride, having not just watched a match but seen our team win. So, thank you for this experience - I cheered and screamed too!”

Year of reading

Bradford Literacy Festival Lemn Sissay

“I had a really good time and Lemn really inspired me. I came away feeling like he understood the journey through the care system and made me realise that there are creative way of coping with my experiences in care.”



Ilkley Literature Festival Andy Stanton

“We had a brilliant time! I thought (D) would struggle but he loved it. (R) has decided we need all of his books now. Andy was fantastic and really involved the children and was very patient with all the children. Thank you for inviting us we had a lovely time.”

Harewood Hillclimb

“Just to say thank you for the Harewood Hill climb tickets for Sunday 15th. A fabulous time was had by all and good memories were made that will be talked about for a long, long time. Our young person was happily waving the drivers off and cheering them back in (most times). Thrills, spills and noise! What gets better than that for an 11 year old and not a play station in sight? We will most definitely be supporting events held there next year and would recommend other carers to go check it out. Here's hoping your new partner can offer more free tickets for next season. It's a brilliant family bonding/ memory making activity. Thanks to them once again.”



Outward Bounds Skills For Life



It is with massive support from our partners at The Outward Bound Trust and Leeds Community Foundation, we have for the fourth year running been able to secure places for 10 care experienced young adults on a number of residential adventure programmes in Scotland, England and Wales.

This is our highest number yet and we couldn't be more proud with what each one of them, achieved. We have secured places for next years summer adventures so if you are working with a young person that would be interested in applying please get in touch at cflenrichment@leeds.gov.uk

We would like to share some of their feedback with you:



"I thought it would be challenging but never expected it to be as tough as it was. I felt that as I had completed the NCS and am fairly active I would be okay but the leader really pushed us physically. It was nice to be able to rely on each other as a team."

Big Shout Out for Social Sundays

In partnership with the Care Leavers service and Health for All we are supporting a new approach to tackling loneliness and social isolation in the care leaver community.

Sundays can be a lonely day for many people so the Sunday Social is currently being piloted and aims to bring staff and care leavers together to prepare Sunday dinner and socialise as a group.

We are looking forward to the next one and hope that it will be rolled out across the city!



Key facts/ statistics

350+
Places on projects for care experienced children and young people living and growing up in Leeds.

Estimated Value:
£28,254

23
projects in the last 12 months working with 13 different ambassadors

950+
tickets provided to children and young people for various entertainment

Fostering, Kinship, SGO, UASC, community groups

Estimated value: £43,137

Over 100% more (just over double) the amount of projects and ticket opportunities since 2018

Coming up

Watch out for our spring edition when we will look back on all things festive

Projects 2020 - find out whats coming up and how to book a place for a child or young adult

Tickets 2020 - there will be Information about upcoming tickets to events across Leeds

Thank you for your continued support we are looking forward to making 2020 our biggest year yet!