



oxfordshire
youth

The Young Women and Girls Project

A young person's journey

Oxfordshire Youth's Young Women and Girls Project is a programme supporting young women and girls between 11 and 25 years old who are affected by gang associated harms including violence, sexual violence and exploitation.



This is a referral only programme and works with young women and girls on a one-to-one basis for up to 12 months, following a youth work approach to support. Funded by Cherwell District Council, the programme operates in Banbury and Bicester.

Referral received

Once a referral has been received via secure email, the information will be inputted into OY's internal system where it will be reviewed by the programme coordinator and their line manager. Following the review, a decision will be made about whether the referral is accepted or declined. If more information is needed to make a decision, the programme coordinator will contact the referrer to obtain the necessary information.

Referral accepted

If a referral is accepted, this will be communicated to the referrer and next steps will be agreed. This will usually involve setting up an introductory meeting with the young person and the referrer (or another appropriate professional).

Referral declined

If a referral is declined, this will be shared with the referrer as well as the reason for the decision. If a young person's referral is declined, a future referral can still be submitted.

Initial assessment

Before the initial meeting with a referred young person, the programme coordinator will use the referral information to conduct an initial assessment where levels of support and engagement required will be identified. This will then be discussed with the young person as part of their initial meeting and updated following the meeting to ensure that it is informed by the needs and interests of the young person.

The support plan will be reviewed monthly as a minimum.

Initial meeting with young person

This space will be used to understand a young person's motivation to engage, share with them an overview of what their programme of support will look like and to fill in a registration form so they can provide feedback on their own aspirations and concerns. The information shared will be used to inform the young person's support plan.

This meeting will take place with the young person and another professional (most likely the referrer).

Support plan

The support plan will be discussed with the young person to gain their input regarding personal aspirations, steps to take to achieve these and support they might need. They should also be taken through information on the support plan and why it is in place e.g. other services to engage with. The support plan will be reviewed with young people regularly to reflect on progress and review and update content as appropriate.

Engagement

Young people engage with the service for up to 12 months. During this time they will attend one-to-one meetings with the programme coordinator where they will receive appropriate youth work support to work towards the goals set-out in their support plan. This could include support to write a C.V., applying for jobs, transport to a positive activity, signposting and supporting a young person to access another service.

Steps may need to be taken during the programme to make changes to a young person's programme of support depending on an individual's circumstances and their level of engagement.

Preparing for exit

A minimum of three months before a young person's programme of support is due to end, a meeting will take place where they will take part in the creation of an exit service plan. The referrer and other appropriate agencies will be informed that the programme of support is coming to an end. There may be exceptional circumstances where engagement in the programme is extended. This will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Engagement concludes

Engagement will be concluded with a meeting and celebration event decided on with the young person. Before this meeting, any necessary signposting/referrals will be in place and support to access any services will have been provided (or agreed if continued support to access them is needed as part of their post service support).

Post service support

Once a young person comes to the end of their programme of support, they will be offered monthly check-ins with the programme coordinator for up to six months. Although not mandatory, there may be situations where OY strongly encourages a young person to make use of these, and disengagement in these meetings at anytime will be shared with the relevant professional/service.



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