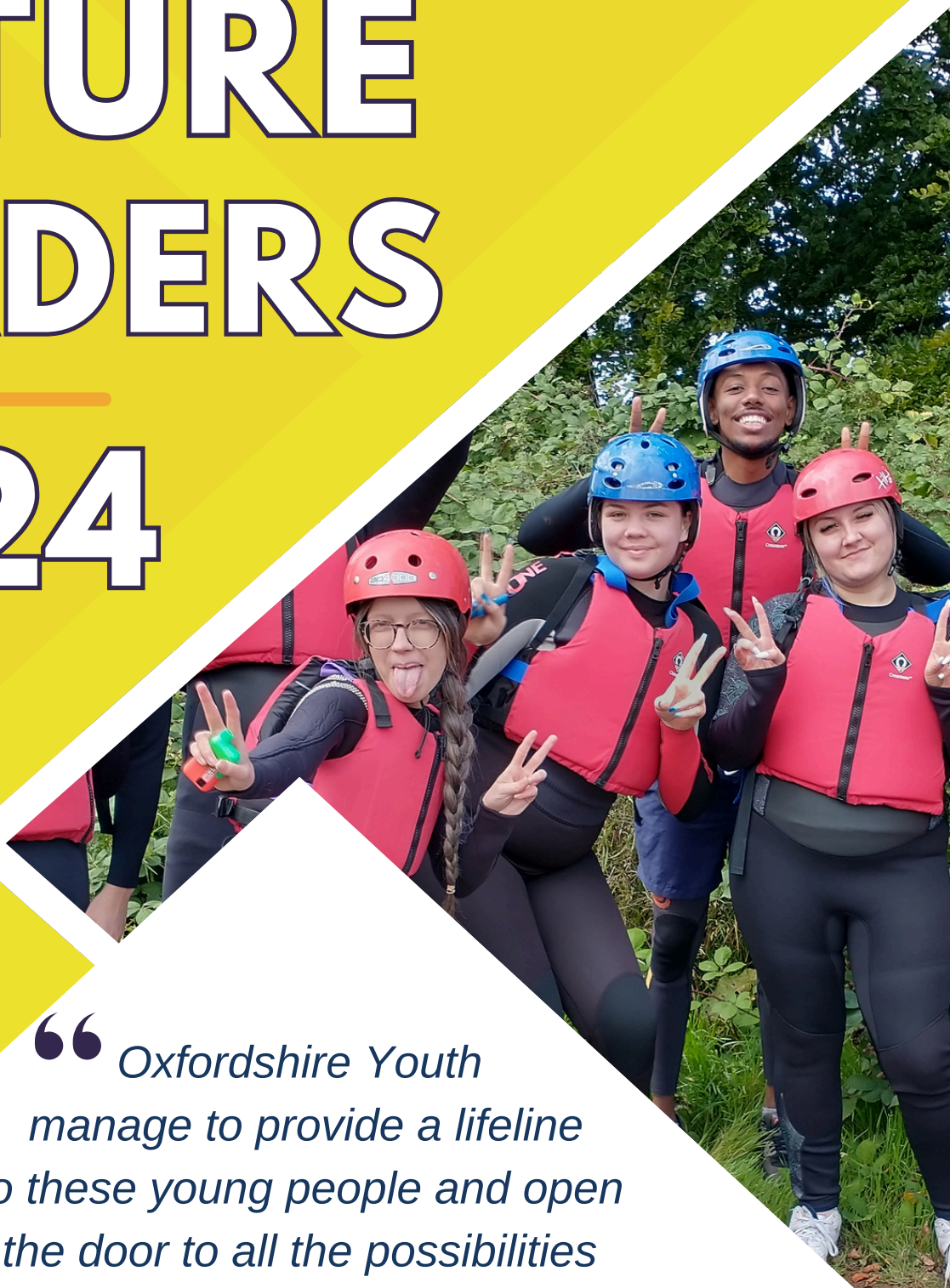


FUTURE LEADERS 2024



“ Oxfordshire Youth
manage to provide a lifeline
to these young people and open
the door to all the possibilities
that lie before them. ”

Matt Bryant,
Talent Development Partner

Equipping Young People with essential life skills and qualifications to boost educational attainment and employability

The Future Leaders Programme offered 18-25 year olds in supported housing the chance to earn a series of AQA Unit Awards in leadership and team skills.

Young people took part in employability and CV workshops, leadership workshops, a 4 day/3 night residential and work experience at Lucy Electric. Rather than just conceptual development training, the young people worked for Lucy Electric and were exposed to a number of different people and job roles.



“ The impact this programme had on me as an individual was unexpected to say the least. My eyes were opened to the serious lack of support available... the success stories are many, but there is still more work to do. ”

Matt Bryant,
Talent Development Partner

18

Young people took part in the Future Leaders Programme across the CV and employability workshops and the residential.

16

Young people achieved a combined total of

123

AQA Unit Awards.



“It was an inspiring programme to witness and be a part of, and I am looking forward to the next one in the not too distant future.”

Oxfordshire Youth Progression Coach

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Employability and Confidence

Findings from pre and post evaluation surveys showed all of the young people who took part self-reporting increased levels of confidence in some areas (e.g. making decisions or working as a team)

All of the survey respondents said that the programme:

- Made them feel more confident
 - Enhanced their skills
 - Increased their knowledge
 - Gave them different opportunities
- 100% of participants said the workshop made them feel more motivated to plan for their future
 - 100% of participants said they felt more able to create a CV
 - 95% of participants said they felt more able to start thinking about their future
 - 90% of participants said it made them feel more confident to apply for jobs



“Everything been great, the residential was fun and I really did enjoy it.”

“Was incredible. I really enjoyed all of it but the last bit in production was great.”

“The best bit was putting the prototype together”

“ I think the CV workshops made a big difference. The way that Matt from Lucy Group laid everything out made it so much more manageable. He gave us really good tips and some different apps to use which make it a much less scary task. Now I know I’ll be okay to rewrite it when I need to. ”

Future Leaders Participant

Residential

“The young leaders programme proved that life's greatest adventures begin when you dare to step outside your comfort zone. Every young person who participated in the programme, made themselves proud, and ended it with a smile on their face. Seeing this was the most rewarding moment of my work.”

Oxfordshire Youth Progression Coach

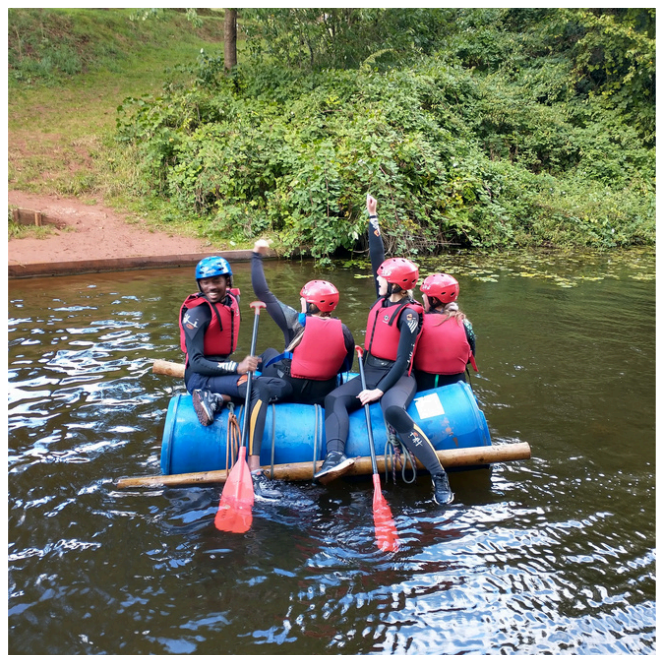


After taking part in the residential, all of the young people who took part said..

- ...they felt very confident working in a team
- ...they felt more able to speak up for themselves and others
- ...the programme had developed their leadership qualities
- ... they know what it means to be a leader

“Programmes like this give these young people a space to open-up, talk about anything and most importantly be listened to. With the compassion and empathy that is afforded to these young people by Oxfordshire Youth, they are given a platform to develop to their full potential.”

Matt Bryant,
Talent Development Partner



Spotlight: case study

Charley joined the YPSA in April 2024 after a breakdown in relationships with their foster family, which resulted in them going missing and becoming involved with social services. They experienced a family history of abuse and addiction after being adopted at a young age, and was struggling with their mental health, education, and relationships when they joined the service.



“When I moved into the YPSA, I was feeling very anxious and didn't have much confidence. I was scared to live by myself and was struggling without some of the support I'd been getting when I was younger. I was struggling to maintain healthy friendships and wouldn't leave the house most days. My wellbeing was shocking, I couldn't get out of bed in the mornings and would often skip college.

My progression coach really helped. I really didn't know what to expect when she signed me up for the Future Leaders programme, but she really encouraged me to take part and helped me keep attending every week. At the beginning of the sessions I was really anxious, but Katie helped keep me motivated and I was determined to keep attending to be able to go on the residential.

I think the CV workshops made a big difference. The way that Matt from Lucy Group laid everything out made it so much more manageable. He gave us really good tips and some different apps to use which make it a much less scary task. Now I know I'll be okay to rewrite it when I need to.

The work experience was also really interesting, I didn't know if I would like it, but I enjoyed speaking to all the workers there and seeing the behind the scenes of the company. The best bit was putting the prototype together, someone was showing me how to do it and then let me just get on with it myself. We were working together, and it was so cool that the part I'd made myself would actually be used in their production.



The residential trip was really special. I was anxious not to really know other people who were going, and felt scared to have to do everything on my own but by the end of it I had made a connection with everyone there. I was terrified of heights, so found the high ropes activity really scary but was so proud of myself for doing it.

The whole thing has really helped me improve my confidence. I used to really struggle talking to people, especially new people, and I would be stuck in my own head trying to figure out what to say and worried I'm repeating myself but now I can say more things to different people. I'm working at the moment and looking for a job closer to home.

Taking part in the programme, the residential and the work experience have really helped me. I've gained new friends, skills and so much more confidence, which has helped me become much more independent. I'm not relying on people so much any more and feeling much more optimistic about whatever comes next."

THANK YOU!



Thank You Lucy Group for investing in the future of young people in our supported accommodation service.

This innovative partnership is creating real change on the ground, tackling inequalities and helping young people plan for their futures.

Here's to building a future Oxfordshire where all children and young people have the skills, connections, and support they need to thrive.



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