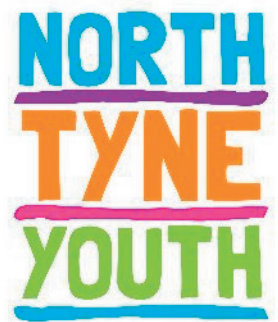


**North Tyne Youth  
Annual Report  
2022/2023**

# Who we are



## WHY does North Tyne Youth exist?

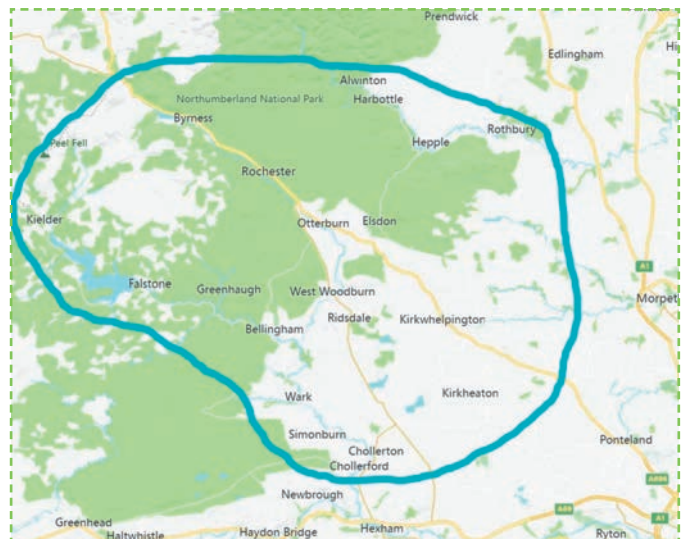
We support young people’s personal and social development through the provision of recreational opportunities.



## WHO does North Tyne Youth work with?

We work with all young people aged 8-18 years, irrespective of their sex, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, abilities or disabilities. In particular, we try to reach young people who are rurally isolated.

Where we are unable to meet the needs of specific young people, we support them to access specialist provision.



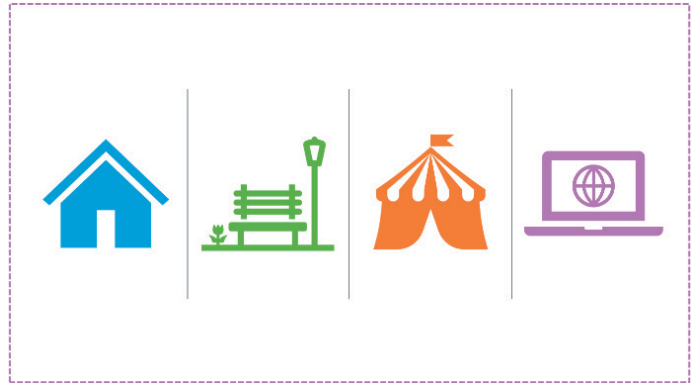
## WHERE does North Tyne Youth work?

We work in rural north-west Northumberland. Our current bases are in Bellingham, Otterburn, Haydon Bridge, Humshaugh and Kirkwhelpington but we welcome young people from other locations who wish to access our provision.

## HOW does North Tyne Youth work?

We work in a variety of ways, including:

- centre-based sessions
- school-based sessions
- outreach work
- detached work
- temporary 'pop-up' sessions
- online.



## WHAT does North Tyne Youth offer?

Our work is delivered through a wide variety of activities. These are planned in consultation with the young people and include:



**Arts and crafts**



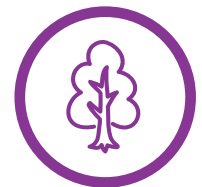
**Drama and dance**



**Sports and physical activities**



**Adventurous activities**



**Environmental activities**



**Heritage activities**



**Trips and residencies**



**Leadership programmes**



**Counselling and advice**



**Informal discussions and chat**

## WHO supports North Tyne Youth?

North Tyne Youth works in partnership with others to engage and support young people. This includes:

- local people, schools and community settings
- other youth work organisations and forums
- activity and service providers
- strategic bodies
- sponsors, trusts and other funding agencies.

# What we achieved



**98**  
8-11 year olds

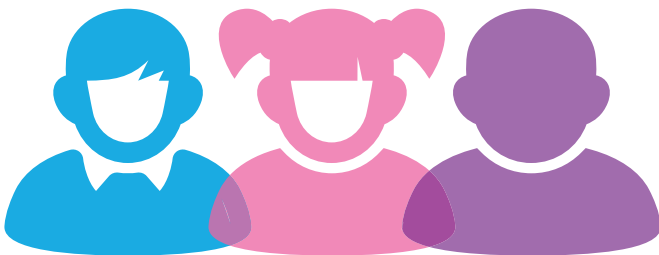
**183**  
12-16 year olds



from  
**18** villages and  
**21** farms



across  
**1,032**  
square kms



**148** girls  
**130** boys  
**3** non-binary/trans

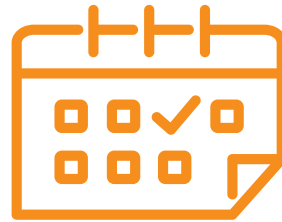


including  
**48**  
with additional needs

# ...through...



**303**  
hours of  
delivery



in  
**230**  
weekly  
sessions



at **5**  
regular centres



supported by  
**29**  
volunteers



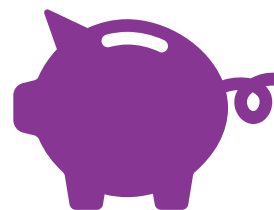
and **16**  
additional  
activities,  
trips and  
residential



with  
**31**  
partner  
agencies



travelling  
**1,800**  
kms



and  
**18**  
funders

# What we did - *at youth club*



## Arts and crafts

- Coloured our world with outdoor chalk murals
- Made our own playdough
- Made cards and gifts for people we care about
- Crafted unique personalised jewellery
- Built amazing Lego creations
- Painted rocks

## Drama, dance and music

- Enjoyed winter storytelling sessions
- Wrote and performed our own plays
- Choreographed and performed our own dances
- Took part in professionally led performance workshops
- Learned how to drum
- Learned to create, mix and produce music with a pro DJ



## Sports and games

- Played group games with our parachute
- Held dodgeball tournaments
- Set up obstacle courses and adventure trails
- Tried our hand at indoor archery
- Made giant bubbles
- Learned unusual variations on the Uno! card game

### Leadership and independence skills

- Planned and delivered activities for other youth club members
- Wrote funding bids for projects to help our communities
- Shared skills between younger and older members
- Discussed tackling bullying and building friendships
- Developed financial understanding by running tuck shops
- Took care of our sexual health with the C-Card scheme



### Culture, language and heritage activities

- Observed cultural traditions, e.g., Hallowe'en, Bonfire Night, Christmas
- Threw Medieval parties
- Held blind dates with books
- Learned about how people lived in our area before us
- Made and ate food together
- Hosted film nights



### Environmental activities

- Surveyed waterways with Tyne Rivers Trust
- Bashed Himalayan Balsam to remove it
- Listened to underwater creatures with hydrophones
- Created an Earth Giant on our doorstep
- Built and chilled out in dens
- Visited the park

# What we did - *out and about*



## Becoming independent

- Planned our own trips and transport
- Challenged ourselves by staying away overnight
- Tested and made friendships on group residentials
- Ordered and ate meals together in fancy restaurants

## Trying new things

- Got lost in a maize maze and broke out of escape rooms
- Rafted, kayaked and swam wild
- Scared ourselves silly on giant rollercoasters
- Climbed new heights and travelled new distances



### Seeing the world

- Pond-dipped at Kielder
- Trampolined at Gateshead
- Kayaked in the Lake District
- Travelled to Blackpool for a day out



### Being part of our community

- Attended the local Christmas market
- Visited our local library
- Watched films at the local cinema
- Photographed the places where we live



# What we achieved



## Personal development

The work we do with our young people encourages them to develop independence, grows their confidence and sense of identity, and instils a sense of social responsibility.

*"I like coming to youth club because I like helping the workers and it is just fun to come and do activities and things that make other children enjoy it. I get to learn things from it myself and I really enjoy doing it. That is why I enjoy coming to youth club." E, 13*

*"We get to tell the youth workers what we want and then we get to help plan it and feel really involved, like it's our youth club." I & S, 14*

*"NTY is a group I'd been aware of from the start when it was a simple youth club held at the local sports hall. When my children were old enough, they attended weekly. Six years on both children still attend in some capacity. My eldest helps support staff at the Otterburn junior session where he is gaining experience and, more importantly, confidence. NTY is supporting him now in a different but important way. My daughter attends the senior sessions, taking the opportunity to attend trips away where possible." K, parent*

*"Over the last six months, an enthusiastic and dedicated group of older young people from Otterburn Seniors Youth Club have attended the Juniors Youth Club as young leaders. During this time, they have planned and delivered activities, carried out risk assessments and health and safety checks, evaluated their work and made improvement plans. Their sessions have included sports, such as badminton, football and basketball, team-building exercises, such as obstacle courses, making food, and delivering presentations on social action. They have also assisted adult staff with practical help, like signing in members, handling money and setting up equipment. From this, their confidence, self-esteem, communication and administration skills have all improved and, most importantly, they continue to enjoy this experience so much, as have many of their younger peers." AL, Youth Support Worker*



## Health and wellbeing

Supporting physical and mental health and wellbeing is at the core of what we do for young people. We provide space for them to safely explore who they are and the role they play in their world. As well as offering guidance and working to explore themes like sexual health, substance use and diet and exercise, we promote robust self-care approaches and proactive healthy living.

*"I came to this youth club because it's fun, it is a release from school and home, so it's good to have somewhere to go. I wouldn't change anything as this is a nice place full of nice people." E, 12*

*"I just wanted to say a huge thank you for your support this term. It has been really good to have someone who knows some of the students but is able to make positive relationships with so many more so quickly. I was wondering whether you would be willing to make it a permanent fixture for next year?"*

Stephen Hill, Assistant Head, Haydon Bridge High School

*"We're so glad that you have had such a good start [with the new sessions at Bellingham], you really are making an enormous difference and we are grateful." Terry Bragg, Reed Hall Committee*



## Social development

Our young people live in geographically isolated areas across rural Northumberland. Our provision offers them the opportunity to meet and make friends, maintain social connections, build their teamworking and cooperation skills, and respect and value others irrespective of background and identity.

*"I would say that youth club is a place where I can be myself and nobody will judge me. Also all of the staff are amazing; they always make sure you are okay and are willing to talk. And it's an amazing place to make friends. I've made so many amazing friends that I will definitely keep for life! I never used to speak at youth club but the staff were amazing and very patient with me. Youth club is a confidence booster!" W, 15*

*"Youth club lets me see my friends!" T, 13*

*"I enjoy youth club because I get to see people I don't usually see!" E, 13*

*"Better than school – by a lot!" L, 11*

*"I just wanted to thank you for all the support you have provided that has allowed us to set up a youth club in Humshaugh. Whilst our community is replete with resources and activities for our adult and older residents there is essentially nothing for young people. I have thought for many years that we should have a youth club and, through my role as Chair of Governors at the village school, the need for this has become ever clearer. Thanks to NTY we now have a club and I look forward very much to working with NTY to develop this over the next year."*  
Herbie Newell, Humshaugh Parish Council

*"Our pupils are really lucky to get this opportunity (Thursday lunch club)."*  
Dan Ramshaw, Head, Bellingham Middle School



## Education, employment and citizenship

Quality youth work helps to prepare young people for life as active members of society, supporting them to set and achieve positive goals to help themselves, others and the world around them. North Tyne Youth also supports the education, training and employment of the local workforce.

*"I go to youth club to gain work experience and confidence. It's rewarding having younger kids listen to you and look up to you. Working alongside adults has given me a sense of maturity, like I earned my place." A, 15*

*"Mainly I love volunteering at youth club because I get to help people and I love making them happy and seeing their progress as well. I've been told it's a good skill to have, working with children, and it can help in the future if I get a job, possibly as a teacher. I also like learning new things such as how the youth workers work with the children and see how they cope with how the children behave, like if they're being louder or quieter than usual how the youth workers help them. I believe that doing even a small thing for someone can make a massive impact, and I hope my contribution to helping others could make an impact on our community, and I hope one day I could work with children the way North Tyne Youth does."*  
LCF, 15

*"I had a great student assessment with A this week. It was so great to hear how your approach had completely transformed her perception and understanding of supervision and had benefited her placement experience. Thanks so much. We are delighted to have you in our pool and whilst I know we discussed trying to put on some CPD training in supervision it sounds more like you should be the tutor!"*  
Dan Connolly, Head of Sunderland University Community & Youth Work Course

# Our team

## Staff



**Lisa Robinson**  
Youth Development Worker

"We've had another wonderful year at North Tyne Youth. Our bright, funny, complex and strong young people have excelled themselves. They are a constant source of awe and inspiration and a pleasure to work with. Thanks to our staff, volunteers, trustees, families, communities, partners and funders, I am delighted we've been able to give our young people the support they deserve and need."



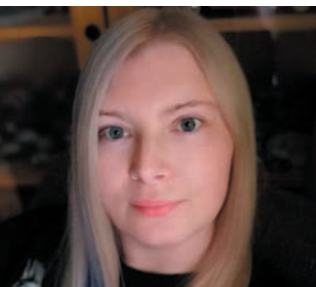
**Alan Lamb**  
Youth Support Worker

"I believe the environment we try to create is a safe place that our young people can come to, to express their feelings, increase their confidence, improve their communication skills, experience new and exciting things they have never done before and, ultimately, have fun with existing and new friends."



**Fritha Valistar**  
Sessional Youth Support Worker

"We've had a great year with our young people. I've been fortunate enough to be able to attend sessions in all of our settings and I love them all! In particular, it is great that the oldest young people are now coming in to help run the younger age groups, which is so good for them all."



**Kirsty Reynolds-Smith**  
Sessional Youth Support Worker

"The past year at North Tyne Youth has been incredible! We've had some fantastic sessions full of fun, laughter and games, as well as nights learning about our local environment and some amazing adventures away. My favourite has been watching our young people grow and mature, as well as meeting the new young people who have joined us this year."



**Karen Trail**  
Administrative Support

"I was delighted to become part of the team in June 2022, offering administrative support. I'm a parent of two young people who access North Tyne Youth's provision, so it has allowed me to see it from a different perspective, to see all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes by both volunteers and employees. It is a passionate team who never lose sight of the needs and wants of the young people we support."



**Christina Short**  
Sessional Youth Support Worker

Christina was a regular volunteer before becoming a sessional worker in autumn 2022. Unfortunately, due to a change in personal circumstances, she was unable to continue in the role but was a tremendous asset to the team, developing excellent relationships with our young people.

## Trustees

**Carol Hawman** – Chair  
**Lesley Bates** – Treasurer  
**Lauren Bowden**  
**Kelly Hollings**  
**Sam Kellie**  
**Cliff Lamb**  
**Kev Price**

## Volunteers



**Amanda Sindle**  
**Aidan Trill**  
**Charlotte Innes**  
**Christina Short**  
**Cliff Lamb**  
**Daniela Martins**  
**Fritha Valistar**  
**Herbie Newell**  
**Isaac Reynolds-Smith**  
**Jess Brownbridge**  
**Jilli Rogerson**  
**John Rowland**  
**Kay Patten**  
**Kelly Hollings**  
**Kirsty Reynolds-Smith**  
**Leanne Jones**  
**Leigh Smyth**  
**Lorien Valistar**  
**Lucy Cooke-Fletcher**  
**Rachael Cowens**  
**Sol Valistar**  
**Sophie Hagan**  
**Tabitha Fletcher**

## Partners and supporters

**Andy Gray**  
**Bellingham Middle School**  
**Blowin' A Hooley Theatre Company**  
**Chris Woodcock** (Photography)  
**Generation Evolve**  
**H2O Trails**  
**Haydon Bridge High School**  
**Humshaugh Parish Council**  
**Humshaugh Village Hall**  
**John Hartshorne** (Archery)  
**Kirkwhelpington Youth Project**  
**Milburn Coaches**  
**Miscreations Theatre**  
**Moss Troopers Storytelling**  
**The National Trust**  
**Newcastle University**  
**North Tyne & Redesdale Community Partnership**  
**Northumberland County Council Youth Service**  
**Northumberland Libraries**  
 (and a special mention to our friendly Bellingham librarian, Anna, for all her enthusiasm and support)  
**Northumberland Pride**  
**Northumberland Wildlife Trust**  
**Revitalising Redesdale**  
**RTC Sports Centre**  
**Simon Wood** (Drumming)  
**The Forum Cinema**  
**Time Bandits**  
**Top Signs Hexham**  
**Tynedale Youth Forum**  
**Tyne Rivers Trust**  
**Tyne Valley Coaches**  
**University of Sunderland**

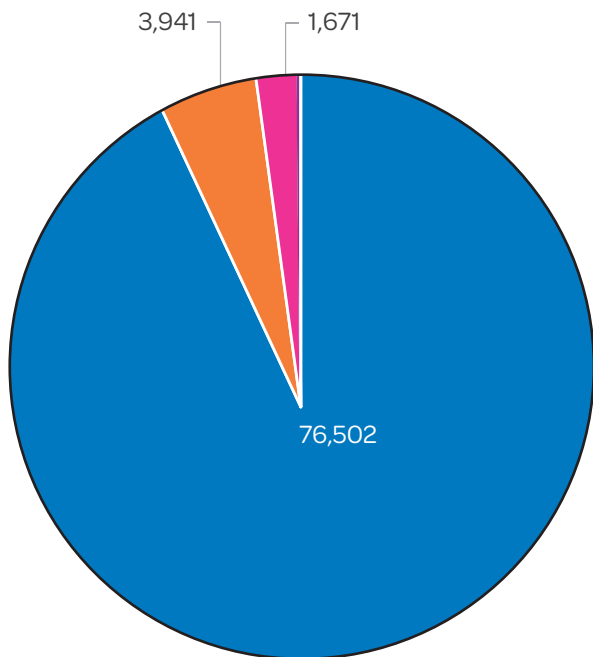
## Funders

**Ballinger Charitable Trust**  
**Bellingham and District Darts League**  
**Bellingham Fund**  
**Blackett Family First**  
**Community Foundation**  
**Co-op Community Fund**  
**EC Graham Belford**  
**EDF Green Rigg**  
**Evans Trust**  
**Humshaugh Community Ventures Ltd**  
**Humshaugh Parish Council**  
**North Tyne & Redesdale Community Partnership**  
**Northumberland County Council Member's Local Improvement Scheme**  
 (with special thanks to Councillor Nick Morphet)  
**Ray Wind Fund**  
**Reeds Charity**  
**Sir James Knott Trust**  
**Squires Foundation**  
**The High Sheriff of Northumberland**

**Thank you to everyone who helps us!**

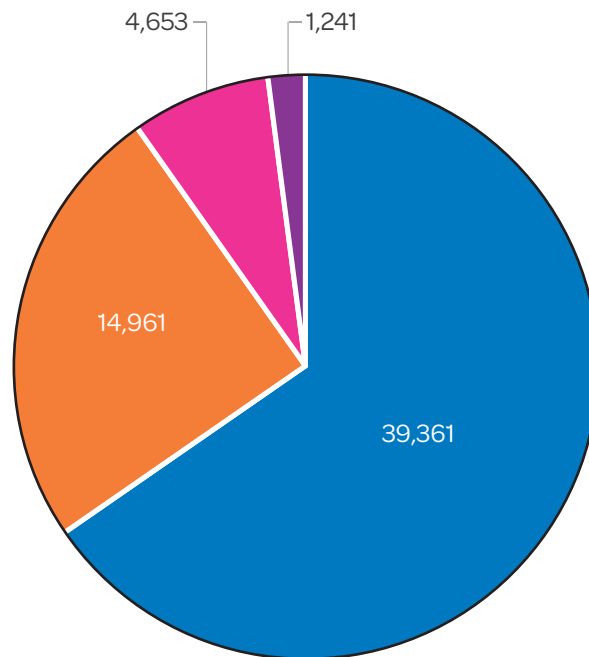
# What we cost

## Income



- Grants and legacies
- Subs
- Sales
- Other

## Expenditure



- Staffing
- Activities
- Admin
- Other

## Income for 2022/23 <sup>1</sup>

Grants and legacies	£76,502
Subs (paid by young people)	£3,941
Sales (e.g. hoodies)	£1,671
Other (e.g. interest)	£106
<b>Total</b>	<b>£82,220</b>

## Expenditure for 2022/23 <sup>2</sup>

Staffing	£39,361
Activities	£14,961
Admin and office equipment	£4,653
Other (e.g. training)	£1,241
<b>Total</b>	<b>£60,216</b>

<sup>1</sup> These are interim sums as North Tyne Youth accounts are finalised later in the year for submission to the Charity Commission.

<sup>2</sup> These are interim sums as North Tyne Youth accounts are finalised later in the year for submission to the Charity Commission.

# Get involved!

## Young people

Young people are welcome to join our regular clubs and/or occasional sessions to suit your interests and time. You may attend as often or as little as you wish. Follow us on Facebook or get in touch with our Youth Development Worker to find out what's on. If you have additional suggestions for what, where and when we deliver, let us know! If you want to take part but something stops you, let us know and we will do our best to help.

## Volunteers

Volunteers are essential to what we do. We cannot deliver without you. Whether you are keen to work with young people – juniors and/or seniors – or would prefer to be 'behind the scenes', we would love to hear from you. You can help as much or as little as you wish. You do not need any specific experience – you bring your own skills and interests – and we will support you as best we can. (Volunteers working directly with young people will be required to have an Enhanced DBS certificate – organised and funded by us.)

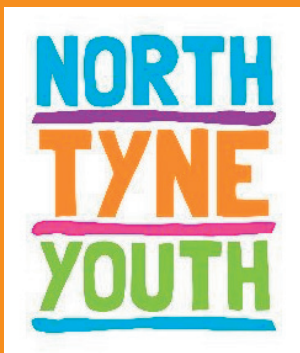
## Trustees

North Tyne Youth is a charity, managed by a Board of Trustees, all of whom are volunteers. If you are interested in supporting us to manage the charity, please get in touch. You do not need experience of youth work as you may bring other management skills and expertise, such as leadership and governance, finance, operations, digital and marketing.

## Funders

We receive *no* statutory or central government funding. We would not exist without the support of our fabulous funders – big and small! If you are a potential funder looking to support young people, know of any relevant funding opportunities or have a fundraising idea, please get in touch. We are keen to develop partnerships that help us to benefit young people.

For our contact details, see the back cover.



North Tyne Youth  
Rede, Tyne and Coquet (RTC) Sports and Leisure Centre  
Otterburn  
Northumberland  
NE19 1HE

Contacts  
Youth Development Worker: [lisa.robinson@northtyneyouth.co.uk](mailto:lisa.robinson@northtyneyouth.co.uk)  
M. 07826 020949  
Trustees: [trustees@northtyneyouth.co.uk](mailto:trustees@northtyneyouth.co.uk)

Registered as a Charity in England and Wales: 1189025