



The Leeds Voice, Influence and Change newsletter June 2018

We hope you enjoy reading our latest newsletter covering the latest voice & influence news, resources, consultations and opportunities. In this issue you can catch up on: the child friendly city centre competition winners, national democracy week, how to influence Easter school holiday dates, Leeds Children's Mayor entry details and much more.

As always, if you have any stories, groups or events that you would like us to feature in a future issue please get in touch.

News

#SnappLeeds

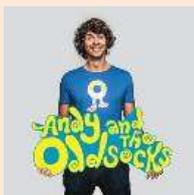


Did you know that last summer Child Friendly Leeds held a competition where children and young people were invited to submit their on what would make Leeds city centre more child-friendly? Over 350 entries were received and since the autumn a team of people have been working with the ten winners to try and give their voice an influence and make [their ideas happen](#).

["@SnappLeeds"](#) was one of the winning ideas created by Cameron, Godwin, Joe, Samuel and Simon from Abbey Grange Academy (pictured left). The students wanted to get other young people engaging more with the city centre through the medium of photography. They wanted teenagers across the city to be given the chance to win shopping vouchers by taking pictures around Leeds city centre and uploading them to the new Instagram page @snappleeds. The picture with the most monthly likes will win gift vouchers!

The Instagram page was launched on Friday 11th May 2018 at Trinity Leeds and as many of the other winning ideas were about physical structures and city centre events, this one was something really different and interactive. You can find out more by reading the [blog](#) from the young people behind the idea.

'Child Friendly Leeds Live' on Millennium Square 8th August!



Another child friendly city centre competition winner was a young man named Will aged 8 and from Tranmere Park Primary School. Will's entry was about having a 'children's festival' in the middle of the city for children like him and his friends to enjoy. We can now announce that the C'Beebies' very own 'Andy and the Odd Socks' are to headline 'Child Friendly Leeds Live' on Millennium Square, Leeds on Wednesday 8 August.

The festival-style event is made up of two separate 3-hour sessions both compered by former CBeebies presenter Alex Winters, headlined by 'Andy and the Odd Socks' and featuring heats of the 'Breeze has Talent' competition, which showcases local young talent - so come and support the young people as they perform on stage in front of a panel of industry professional judges. In addition there will be a range of fun, free activities for children to enjoy around the square including arts, crafts, sport and much more. The first 'Child Friendly Leeds Live' session will run from 10am to 1pm, the second will start at 2pm until 5pm.

Admission prices will be kept low at £4 per person for each session and tickets will be available to buy online or in person from Leeds Town Hall Box Office in June. If you'd like to receive more information about this and other holiday events for children and young people in Leeds, please follow us on Facebook (Child Friendly Leeds) or visit the [Breeze website](#).

Local youth groups learn campaigning skills!



More than 100 young people from 19 youth and community groups from across the city groups spent an evening at Leeds Civic Hall on 18th April for the annual Youth Voice Summit for community groups. This year's event – 100 years since women got the vote – was on the theme of campaigning. Attendees heard about famous local, national and global social change campaigns ranging from seatbelts, rights to vote, gender equality, anti-war, combating racism and recent examples such as #MeToo and the American teens' anti-gun protest earlier this year

They were then tasked with working together to think of their own social action campaign, creating a slogan and an eye-catching placard. Campaigns included better mental services, stopping cuts to youth services funding, anti-discrimination and 'children in need of chocolate'. The event finished with tips on how to write to MPs and councillors, how to start petitions and how to organise demonstrations and marches.

#Getyourrights in Health



Following the successful #getyourrights in health event in February which we covered in our last newsletter, a [short report](#) has now been put together which covers all the 'rights in the NHS' sessions that have been delivered in schools and youth groups, as well as the February event. One of the YouthWatch volunteers, Shanjida, has also made a [brilliant 2 minute film](#) with other YouthWatch volunteers about the 'three most important rights you need to be aware of'. This is a useful film to raise awareness amongst providers and commissioners about what is really important to young people when accessing services.

Both the film and the report were presented at the [Leeds Health and Wellbeing Board](#), focusing on what issues were important to different groups of people in terms of barriers to accessing health and care services.

Youth Activity Fund Consultation findings



This year local councillors have been finding out what activities young people want in Leeds so they know the right activities to spend money on. The data from the infographic has been collated from all the community youth summit events, youth service consultation and questionnaires etc. Local councillors have had reports on local preferences which vary depending on each community committee. Although some activities are not listed on the infographic they may have been popular in specific areas and elected members will have had this feedback when making decisions around which projects to fund.

The infographic is a useful document for partners and a good way to promote the consultation we have been working on this year.

If you have any queries or if you would like to involve the children and young people you work with in future events such as these then please get in touch with Caroline Webb at caroline.webb@leeds.gov.uk

Voice, Influence & Change team - Annual summary and detailed reports

The Voice, Influence and Change team have just published our [2017-2018 annual summary](#).

It summarises some of key projects, programmes, networking and training events delivered by the team from April 2017 and 31st March 2018.

If you would like to read a more in-depth and detailed summary of how children, young people and parents and carers are having a voice and influence in organisations and services across the city please see our detailed bi-annual report cards covering: [parents, carers & families](#), [citywide](#) and [children's social work services](#).



Consultations

Have your say on school Easter holidays in Leeds



Parents, carers, pupils and school staff are all being asked for their views on when the school Easter break should be. Leeds City Council is seeking views on the timing of the Easter school holidays for the next few years. This will be the third consultation on the Easter school holiday arrangement – originally taking place in 2009, and then again in 2013.

On both occasions the public view was clearly in favour of having a fixed Easter break. Since 2010 Leeds has fixed its school break to the first two weeks of April, regardless of when the Easter bank holiday weekend falls. Usually the bank holidays fall somewhere within this break, but once every few years they fall outside.

The council is again seeking public opinion in order to decide whether to continue with this arrangement or return to an Easter school holiday that moves according to the Easter bank holiday weekend.

Not all schools have to abide by the dates the council sets. Academies, free schools, foundation schools and voluntary-aided schools have the authority to set their own dates and can continue to do so regardless of any change the council makes as a result of this consultation.

The council is really keen to obtain as many responses as possible to determine whether there is a collective wish to keep the fixed Easter school holiday, or revert to a moveable Easter break. People who wish to share their views can visit the consultation on the council's website by Friday 8 June: www.leeds.gov.uk/easterholidayconsultation

Opportunities and events to get involved in

Leeds Children's Mayor 2018/19



Leeds Children's Mayors is an annual citizenship project that has now been running for 13 years. It aims to actively engage children in the process of democracy and promotes an understanding of rights and responsibilities as well as how to be an active citizen.

Primary schools can enter one candidate from year 5, who will be in year 6 when they become the Leeds Children's Mayor. We strongly encourage schools to ask all of their year 5 pupils to complete an application and hold a vote in school to choose the best overall entry to submit.

Once you have chosen your schools entry please send the completed application form, photo of the entrant and photo consent form to the Leeds Children's Mayor team by email leedschildrensmayor@leeds.gov.uk or post PO Box 83, Voice Influence & Change Team, Leeds, LS1 3PZ. Entries need to be received by **Friday 29th June 2018**.

To find out what the Children's Mayor gets up to during their year in office, watch Isla's new video [here](#) and all the details of how to participate can be found in the resource pack [here](#), including all key dates, entrants tasks and possible session plans.

If you have any further questions about the programme please do not hesitate to email: leedschildrensmayor@leeds.gov.uk or call 07712 214392

Generous June – Children's Mayor campaign



Last November over 6,300 local children and young people elected Isla from Gildersome Primary School as their Children's Mayor of Leeds.

Following her election, Isla made a deputation speech to a full council meeting to share her winning manifesto idea with our 99 city councillors. Her manifesto was all about tackling bullying in schools and carrying out acts of kindness to make children feel happier and more included in school

This year, a team of council officers have been working with Isla and runners-up from the election to come up with a plan to bring her "kindness costs nothing" idea to life and we are now proud to introduce her plan for a "Generous June" in Leeds primary schools this year

During the month of June primary schools across Leeds are being encouraged to carry out 'acts of kindness'. If you are a local school who wants to get involved there's still time! For a full resource pack just email leedschildrensmayor@leeds.gov.uk

Please support your Leeds Children's Mayor in her endeavour to help Leeds become a compassionate city!

Youth Voice Summit for Primary Schools - 26th June

On Tuesday 26th June the third annual youth voice summit for primary schools will be taking place in the banqueting suite at Leeds Civic Hall. The event is free to attend and schools can bring up to 4 pupils from year 5 or 6 along with a member of staff for an action packed day including:

- Learning how to run effective social action campaigns in their schools and communities
- Learning about influential historical and current campaigns such as the suffragettes and American civil rights
- Learn about how to write to the government and local council
- Opportunity to come up with their own campaigns and create placards
- Full tour of the Leeds Council Chamber with the Lord Mayor of Leeds!

A packed lunch and refreshments are included with all bookings and you can now book places [online](#) or email vic@leeds.gov.uk for more information..



Leeds Girls and Young Women's Forum



Getaway Girls are hosting their next Leeds Girls and Young Women's Forum on **Thursday 7th June, 4.30pm till 6.30pm at First Floor, St Peters Building, 6 St Peters Square, Leeds, LS9 8AH**

The group meets regularly and is a great space for young women aged 13-18 to meet up, make new friends and talk about the issues important to them in a safe and supportive environment. If you work with any young person who you think would benefit from attending please call T on 0113 2405894 / 07526 177361

To read more about the work of Getaway Girls visit their [website](#)

Resources

#TalkDemocracy



Did you know that National Democracy Week starts on Monday 2nd July 2018? This year it's also the 90th Anniversary of the 1928 Equal Franchise Act (which gave women the same voting rights as men). It's a really great opportunity to help children and young people you work with to learn about democracy and their right to have a say through a workshop activity. The Cabinet Office have published a useful [Partners Pack](#) and you can learn more about National Democracy Week 2018 on their website.

Police and Crime Commissioner Funding

The next round of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) funding has recently been opened.

This round the theme is focusing on projects that specifically tackle all forms of serious violent crime, including those focusing on prevention and early intervention, supporting diversion away from crime, protection and education and support for victims of serious violence.

Grant Round Fourteen	
Projects that specifically tackle all forms of serious violent crime, including those focusing on prevention and early intervention, supporting diversion away from crime, protection and education and support for victims of serious violence.	
Total monies to allocate	£200,000
Bids open	14 May 2018
Bids close	15 June 2018 (12pm)
Fund awards	6 September 2018
Application Status	Open

This round closes on 15th June and **to** find out more about how to apply and if your group is eligible please visit the funding [webpage](#)

'Hope' - A New Animated film



A new animated film, aimed at raising awareness of emotional health and wellbeing needs in young people, is touring primary and secondary schools across Leeds.

The film project is being led by Shantona Women's Centre in Leeds which works to promote better health within the community, in partnership with Space2 and Allerton Grange Secondary School.

The animation, entitled 'Hope', has been created by a group of 20 Year 8 girls from Allerton Grange and explores issues around bullying, peer pressure, domestic violence, identity, poor self image and mental health. This animation is not based on the story tellers experience.

Staff from Space2 and Shantona have been working with the girls running a series of workshops to generate ideas and a script for the film, which will be shown in schools across and community settings in the city. The girls were given the time and space to develop their ideas and build trust. All the members of the group were invited to get involved in the creation of the animation, writing the script

and creating the images as part of the process. They have also learned how to design and market a poster for the film and created flyers to distribute around Leeds schools and communities

The animated film is just part of a larger project called 'Asroy' (which means safe haven) run by Shantona Women's Centre in partnership with Space2. It has been funded by the Big Lottery Fund and is touring to Leeds schools with an in-depth resource pack for teachers.

You can book free inset training and a workshop for your school or community group.

The free package offer includes:

- Inset training for staff and/or shorter meetings with staff
- Animation viewing , domestic abuse, emotional health and wellbeing workshop
- Resource pack

For more information contact Shantona Women's Centre on [0113 249 7120](tel:01132497120) or email Kat at Katayoun@shantona.co.uk

As always, thanks for reading and don't forget to get in touch if you have anything you would like us to feature in a future edition!

*Kayleigh Harnack
Rich
Hannah.
Hannah S.*

The Voice, Influence and Change Team
Children and Families Directorate
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www.breezeleeds.org/haveyoursay

Learn more about parents & carers having a voice and influence in Leeds:
<http://tinyurl.com/LeedsPCFVoice>

