

Welcome to Neath Port Talbot Youth Service







Youth Work Week 2024

To celebrate Youth work week, we had many events and activities taking place.

Youth Work Week is an opportunity to showcase and celebrate the impact and diversity of youth work across Wales.

Here's a look back at some of the highlights that our Youth Service team arranged:

1. Thrilling Thorpe Park Trip 📶

Over 98 young people from across Neath Port Talbot enjoyed an unforgettable day at Thorpe Park!

2. Supporting Armed Forces Week 🍑

Our Youth Mayor proudly participated in the flag-raising ceremony to mark the start of Armed Forces Week



4. Celebrating Achievements 🙎

A fantastic event was held to recognise the remarkable achievements of our young people, including an outstanding achievement award to recognize the work of a remarkable young person.

5. New Sports Equipment for Schools 🛞

We helped deliver new sports equipment to local schools participating in this summer's Food and Fun programme, promoting physical activities and learning about nutrition.



6. Support Youth Fest M

We support Meardy Youth Fest where members of the Youth Council held activities for other young people including Human Hungry Hippos.

7. LGBTQ+/Pride 🌾

Our LGBTQ+ Youth Club Celebrate Pride Month and Youth Work Week with a celebratory bowling evening.

8. Young Parents 👭

Had a fun Play and Swim Session with our young parents group.

If you want to find out more or if any young people are interested in joining a local youth club, contact the team via our Social Media pages.

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram



NPT Core team and Boys & Girls Clubs of Wales

Young people from Vernons place Youth Centre and Maerdy Youth Club attended the PRIDE event at Cardiff Castle on Sunday 23rd June, during Youth Work week.

Whilst there they were able to browse around and learn from the many stalls that offered advice and support. Our young people also had opportunities to watch (on one of 4 stages) a variety of artists that included: The Vengaboys, Ultrabeat, Heather Small, Jake Shears plus drag Queens Victoria Scone



and Danny Beard. All reported having a great time and would like to repeat this visit next year.

Upcoming Events

Dates for your Diary!

Date	Event
29 th – 31 st July	Families first residential
9 th August	Tir Morfa Open Day
20 th – 22 nd August	Young Carers Festival

Thorpe Park

The young people from Neath Port Talbot Youth Service have been celebrating Youth Work Week with a trip to Thorpe Park Theme Park. This year's trip was a massive hit with 98 young people from youth clubs and youth groups from across the county attending. It gave the young people the opportunity to mix with young people from other groups and experience something that might not normally be accessible to them. To help with the long journey each bus played Welsh Bingo with the numbers called in Welsh and prizes given out to the winners.

As a thank you for taking part in the game all young people received

a Welsh bucket hat which came in handy as the sun was out in full all day. We would like to praise the young people for their exemplary manners and behavior during the trip. The staff felt a great sense of pride seeing the young people looking out for each other regardless of whether they knew them or not.



We would also like to thank the staff for giving up their time and working on the trip. Days like this cannot happen without their dedication and support.



Pride Month

Members of NPT Youth Council celebrated Pride Month and Youth work week by supporting the GCG Youth Festival.

One of our members sold Pride Wrist Bands to help support LGBTQIA Helpline, Well Done. Lots of fun was had by all with members of the Youth Council and staff from the Youth Service playing hungry hippo games and plastic axe throwing. Youth Council members have said that they are looking forward to next year already.



Awards Geremony

The Youth Service Awards Ceremony 2024 was held on the 27th of June. We would like to congratulate everyone who was presented an award that evening & thank all individuals for their hard work. Various awards were presented including:

- Food and Fun Food Hamper Packing
- Public Health Young Ambassadors
- Test Purchasing Award
- Open Day Award
- Change Starts with You Award
- Youth Voice Forum Award
- Nature and Environment Ambassador
- Racism and Anti Bullying Group
- Ash Wales
- Quality Mark Participation
- Better Sexual Health in Schools
- Sponsored Walk
- Library Work



Some individual awards that were presented that evening included:

- Youth Mayor Gracie Jones
- Deputy Youth Mayor Jake Dorgan
- Member of Youth Parliament Meagan Griffiths
- Chair David Twigge
- Deputy Chair Ellie Gallagher





The Youth Council Outstanding Achievement Award went to Meagan Griffiths

and was presented to her by the High Sheriff of West Glamorgan Melanie James.

This young person deserved this award for her outstanding work since joining the Youth Council, she has gone over and above to help with everything.

This is just some of the work that she has done as there is far too much to go through them all.

Member of the British Youth Council, Young Ambassadors for Public Health, Attend numerous events such as – The Mayors Inauguration, Anti-racism charter and Allyship event, Open Day.

She has also worked on the Racism and Anti Bullying Campaign, going into schools with Jan to give the surveys out, she worked with the Quality Mark Campaign, she went into schools and Youth clubs for Change Starts with You. Worked on the Vaping Campaign and helped with all the counting of these surveys. She has put together Surveys in English and Welsh. She has also helped to campaign for new members. She also worked on getting nurses into schools.

Nothing is too much trouble for her and has helped Jan and Jason over the last two years.

She will be going off to university in September but has promised she 8 will keep working with the Youth Council.

Young Parents group

Our young parents group is going from strength to strength with an average of ten to fifteen attending each session. Sessions are strategically timed at 13:00 - 15:00 on Tuesday's and 10:00 -12:00 on Friday's to allow parents that may have children in 'half day' school to be able to attend. We are based at the Afan Lido in Port Talbot where the children have access to the soft play area while parents (if the children let them) can sit in the café area and chat to each other and staff. The group is run by the Youth Service and supported by Flying Start to help with any advice and guidance our parents may need.

The parents have been able to make new friends and build fantastic a support network, they rely on each other for advice, swap baby clothes and equipment and even meet up outside of group. Some have taken advantage of the partnership between the Youth Service and Reel Cinema, some taking the children and others having a 'date night' and some have taken advantage of the partnership between the Youth Service and Vitality Gym meeting up to use the gym together for some 'kid free time'.

I've been to other groups and felt judged because I'm young – that doesn't happen here. The staff are amazing, it just feels comfortable as soon as you start coming.

I've been to other groups but nothing like this!

Families First

On Wednesday 20th March 2024 young people from three of the Families First funded youth groups had the opportunity to attend the Theatre showing of Edward Scissors Hands. The event took place in Wales Millennium centre in Cardiff Bay and young people from Young Carers, GSA and Speech & Language groups really enjoyed this unique experience. Prior to entering the play, the groups looked around Cardiff Bay and took the opportunity to visit the Welsh parliament building 'The Senedd'. The event was a great success and enjoyed by all.





Keeping in Touch Team

The Keeping in Touch team have been extremely busy this year with a record number of Year 11 Electively Home Educated pupils being referred for support. The team work closely with young people and their families/guardians to identify current barriers to put in a plan of engaging activities and support to build on their soft skills, overcome barriers and progress onto identifying a suitable post 16 destination.

The team work one to one and in small groups undertaking fun and engaging sessions, alongside facilitating recognised qualifications and organising Careers Wales guidance interviews and both College and Work Based Learning visits to explore all suitable options available to the young people. This has gained momentum as the academic year comes to a close and staff have been supporting and accompanied young people to Colleges and Work Based Learning. They have been assisting to complete applications, enrolment forms and apply for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).





Support WE CAN PROVIDE

- Online Courses
- Qualifications
- One to one support
- Taster Sessions
- Travel Training
- Confidence Building
- Mental Health Support
- Transition Support
- Careers Appointments
- Visits to Colleges and Work Based Learning Providers
- CV Creation

YEAR 11 ELECTIVELY HOLDER HOLDER EDUCATED?

GET IN TOUCH TO FIND OUT HOW THE TEAM CAN SUPPORT YOU

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Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Neath Port Talbot Young People have proved their resilience and commitment yet again by putting themselves forward for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Within Neath Port Talbot, there have been more awards started compared to last year, better completion percentage (going from 55% to 62%) and the value of Volunteering nearly doubled from £26,825 to £46,057 which is a credit to the Young People.





After a recent Expedition, three participants were asked how the Duke of Edinburgh's Award had impacted on their lives.

"The DofE Award has helped me with my confidence and resilience; it makes you feel like you can achieve anything."

"I was nervous on the expedition, but I feel more confident away from parents now and the DofE Award has helped me to be more independent and given me the confidence for when I leave home."

"I found DofE to be a big challenge, but it gave me huge confidence and made me realise I can do anything when I put my mind to it."

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award provides an excellent opportunity to discover new interests, gain confidence, build new relationships and is fundamental in the development of team working, leadership and resilience within Young People. The Award offers an experience for Young People which will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

My NPT

The Horizons team recently created a new and innovative course for young people aged 16-18 who were not in education, employment or training. The course 'My NPT' was devised to provide opportunities for young people to learn a variety of new skills including story boarding, still and video photography, editing, creating music and using a drone. The young people chose locations within Neath and Port Talbot to film and photograph that were important to them, held special memories or are iconic within the area. The project took place over a six week period and was supported by Rewise Learning.





The group visited a number of locations where they took still images, captured aerial footage using a drone and filmed short clips. The group were then supported by Rewise to edit the footage, create the narrative and music.

All the participants agreed that they really enjoyed taking part, their confidence had been boosted and it was great to socialise and make new friendships. The group learnt a number of new skills and gained an insight into working in the film industry entails. They are all immensely proud of the video and their personal achievements. The video is a real testament to the talent and hard work this group of young people have put into it.

An event to launch the video and celebrate the achievements of the young people is due to take place in the coming weeks which will be shared on our social media platforms.

Financial Skills for Life -HSBC

The Youth Support team teamed up with HSBC Bank to support young people who may need the additional help to secure their future and their transition into adulthood.

'It is important that young people build the skills to make decisions around money and understand how finances impact the world around them in order to support their future wellbeing and mental health'. It's also important to get into good savings habits early on to make sure you have money set aside for life's unexpected events or for your future goals. (HSBC)





The following schools took part in Banking 101 – Dwr y Felin Llangatwg along with Ysgol Cwm Brombil. The workshop, delivered by HSBC Bank for all year 11 pupils supported young people to understand the basics of banking borrowing saving and why getting a bank account is important.

Feedback from the workshops was positive and many young people who did not have bank accounts were given the information advice and said they had the confidence to go and open one.

HSBC UK Financial Capability

Programmes for Young People aged 3 to 25 years includes:

- Financial education
- Financial skills for learning
- Financial skills for life
- Financial skills for work



Meet the Team

Catherine Doyle Youth & Community Worker – Mental Health & Wellbeing

Six words to describe yourself: Happy, chilled, patient, kind, caring, fun.

How do you spend your spare time? In my spare time I spend time with my family and friends, socialising and going on holidays.

Favourite Quote? What will be will be



If you could invite 3 celebrities to a party, who would you choose? Three celebrities I would invite to a party would be Micky Flanagan, Khloe Kardashian and Adele

Favourite place? Capri

Do you have any pets? No Pets

Favourite food? Asian Food

Favorite Animal? Dog

Top 3 things on your 'Bucket List'?

Watch an American football game, swim with turtles and buy another house.

Proudest Moment

Having my son, best thing ever.

Music & Movie Quiz



Groups or Solo Artists

- What Female Girl Band made a come back this year, which includes Cheryl Cole?
- 2. Who Won artist of the year at the Brit Awards 2024?
- 3. Which Singers Real Name is Kathryn Hudson?
- 4. Which Singer is doing a tour this year called 'the Eras Tour'?



Movies

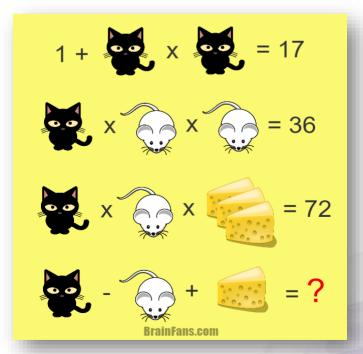
5. What was the highest grossing box office movie of 2023?

6. What is the No.1 box office movie ever?

7. Who appears in the movie Jumanji as Dr. Smolder Bravestone?

8. What is the title of the latest James Bond 007 Movie?

Can you solve our brainteaser?



All answers for the above are on page 27

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For more information contact the Youth Service on 01639 763030 Am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch a'r gwasanaeth leuenctid ar 01639 763030

Gwasanaeth leuencid Castell-nedd Port Talbot Neath Port Talbot Youth Service

LGBTQ+ Youth Group

Clwb leuenctid LGBT0+



Gender & Sexuality Acceptance

Virtual Session - Microsoft Teams 2:00pm - 6:00pm **Every Tuesday**

m.doel@npt.gov.uk 07989541549 Mandy on

k.roberts@npt.gov.uk 07813317023 Kath on For more info

contact:

GSA · Derby iad, Cenedl, Rhywioldeb

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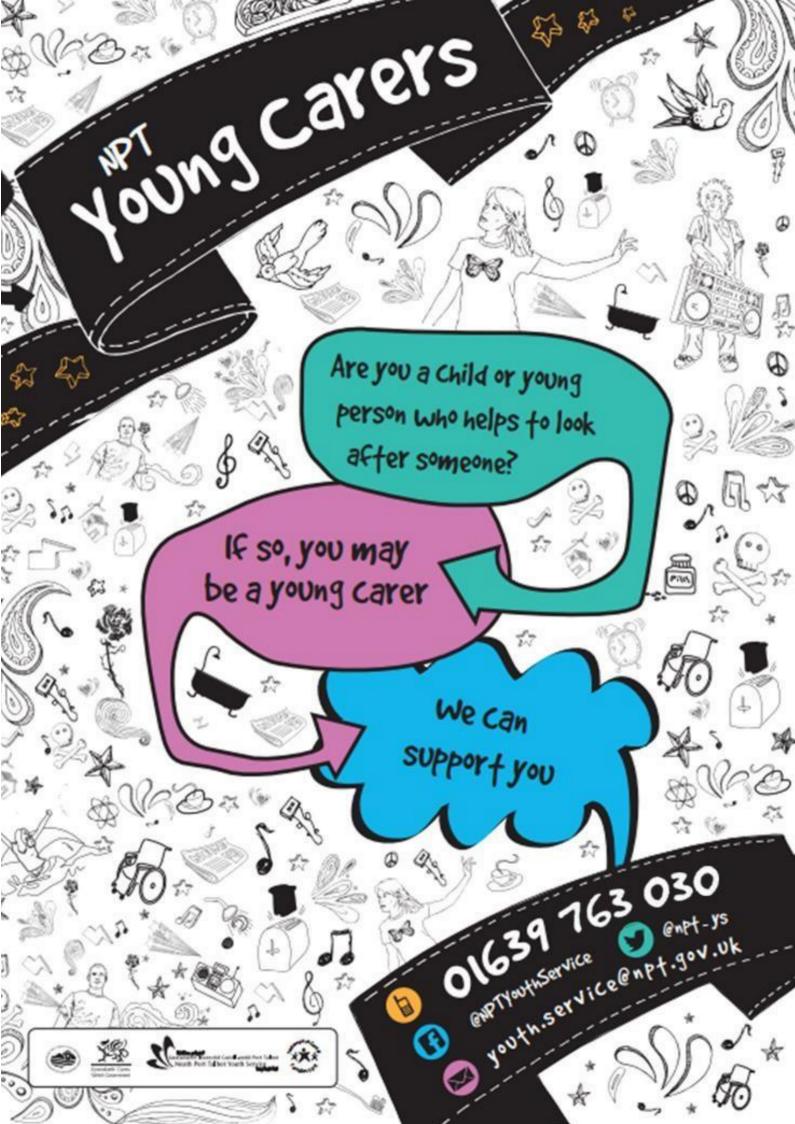
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m.doel@npt.gov.uk 07989541549 Mandy at

k.roberts@npt.gov.uk

07813317023

wybodaeth:



Legacy Community Counselling is here to help you. A service for young people who find it difficult to go to school. You can have counselling in your own home or in your community.

A chance to talk, a chance to have help and support.

If you're interested get in touch!



Here to listen, help and support you.

Are you feeling worried, stressed, angry, anxious or sad? Not attending school anymore?

Is it affecting your everyday life and relationships?

Would you like the chance to talk to a counsellor that can come and see you at your home or somewhere close to where you live like a library?

Sometimes it can help to talk to someone who is just there for you, to listen to you without judgement.

The Community Counsellor will be able to offer you a safe confidential service where you can talk about anything. Legacy Community Counselling Tir Morfa Centre Marine Drive Sandfields SA12 7NN Telephone : 01639 763024

> " I think being able to see a counsellor is good because you can see them and talk about how you're feeling and other things " – Young Person.

What is counselling?

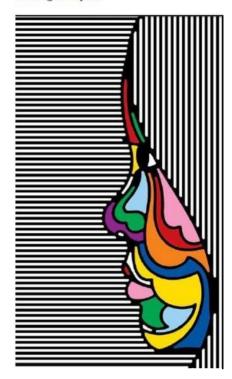
Lots of people wonder about counselling, what will happen, what do I say? Don't worry, your counsellor will put you at ease by talking to you and getting to know you. You don't have to talk about anything you don't want to.

Always remember that having counselling is your choice, if you want to end counselling at any time just let your counsellor know.



Legacy Community Counselling

Bringing counselling into the Community for Children and Young People.



Counselling Sessions.

The counsellor will work with you if you are finding it difficult to attend school.

Counselling sessions are 50 minutes long but can be shorter if you prefer.

The Community Counsellor can see you every week or every two weeks.

Sessions are confidential and information will not be shared with anyone without your consent.

The only time information has to be shared is when there is a risk of harm to you or anyone else. The Community Counsellor will always explain to you if this has to happen.

How to get in touch.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange to see the counsellor our contact details are below.

Cheryl Powell Legacy Community Counsellor Tir Morfa Centre Marine Drive Sandfields Telephone: 01639 763024

Tir Morfa Centre **Open Day** Friday, 9th August Tir Morfa Rd, Marine Dr, 12:00 - 16:00 Port Talbot, SA12 7NN **Bring Family & Friends** CANDY ato Face Painting, Children's

This event is a family friendly open day, showcasing the services that the centre provides.

Parking spaces on site will be limited on the day.

Face Painting, Children's Entertainer, 5-a-side Football, Arts & Crafts, Silent Disco, Live Music, Spray Painting, Smoothie Making, Zorb Football and much more!

















Family Information Service

The NPT Family Information Service (FIS) is a free information service for families living in, or looking services in the NPT County Borough area. It provides up-to- date information about services such as Childcare Provision, Health and Wellbeing Services, Leisure and Sport opportunities



(clubs, associations etc.), Financial Support Services and more. FIS has access to an extensive database and will signpost services on it or to other service providers within the NPT structure. The service can be accessed via its website (<u>www.nptfamily.com</u>), email (<u>fis@npt.gov.uk</u>), Facebook Page (NPT Family), Twitter (@NPTFamily) and also by telephone – 01639 873018.

For further information or any queries contact the Youth Service on 01639 763030 or email <u>youth.service@npt.gov.uk</u>

> **Music:** 1. Girls Aloud, 2. Raye 3. Katy Perrie, 4. Taylor Swift

Movies: 5. Barbie, 6. Avatar 7. Dwayne Johnson, 8. No Time to Die

Brainteaser:

Cat = 4, Mouse = 3, Cheese = 6 Final answer: 7

