

# YOUNG INSPECTORS



Young Inspectors report on: Teens Creative Thursday

Written by: Steph Douglas-Robson

With the views and voice from Young Inspectors

## **Young Inspectors report on: Teens Creative Thursdays**

**Address: St Catherine's School, Grove Road, Ventnor, PO38 1TT**

**Contact details: 01983 852722**

**Date of Inspection: 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**Number of Young Inspectors present: 2**

**Date of Publication: June 2017**

The 'Young Inspectors Scheme' has been developed to capture the voice of children and young people who have a disability and/or additional needs giving them the opportunity to contribute in shaping and developing the service.

The Young Inspectors reviewed the Short Breaks service based on the following areas deemed important to them. The inspection is part of an agreement between Short Breaks and the provider highlighted within the Short Breaks agreement. This is what the Young Inspectors found:

## Report Summary

| Inspected areas         | Overall (star rating) out of 3 Stars  | Did they meet Young Inspectors needs |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Staff                   |   | See 4.1                              |
| Fun and Enjoyment       |   | See 4.2                              |
| Accessibility           |    | See 4.3                              |
| Safety and surroundings |  | See 4.4                              |

## **Contents**

- 1.0 Details about the provision that was inspected
- 2.0 Introduction – Why we inspected Teens Night?
- 3.0 Methodology – How we inspected Teens Night?
- 4.0 Review analysis- What we reviewed
  - 4.1 Staff
  - 4.2 Fun and enjoyment
  - 4.3 Accessibility
  - 4.4 Safety and Surroundings
  - 4.5 Food and Dining experience
- 5.0 Summary of Inspection - What the Young Inspectors found
- 6.0 Recommendations – How the activity can be made better?
  - 6.1 Young Inspectors views
  - 6.2 Young Inspector Lead recommendations
  - 6.3 Parents feedback
- 7.0 Determining overall award
- 8.0 Provider feedback

## **1.0 Details about the provision that was inspected**

Teens Creative Thursday is a club that runs on a Thursday, normally based at St Catherine's School. Teens Creative Thursday is an opportunity to make new friends and learn new skills including arts and crafts, hair and beauty in a fun, friendly and relaxed environment.

### **Overview of the organisation/service:**

Teens Creative Thursday is a club for teenagers aged 11-18 offering arts and crafts sessions including hair and beauty fun, cookery and dance in the near future.

### **What they provide:**

Teens Creative Thursday provide a fun, friendly relaxed environment for young people ages 11-18 enabling them to learn new skills including hair and beauty fun, cookery, dance and arts and crafts.

**When is it available:** Various dates on a Thursday 5.45-7.45pm

**How much is the costs:** £5 per person, per session

**Who to contact to book:** Rachel Thomson **01983 8521722**

## **2.0 Introduction – Why we inspected Teens Creative Thursday?**

We decided to inspect Teens Creative Thursday to capture the views and opinions of young people who attended the activity since the change to the name and now offering spaces to boys as well as girls.

## **3.0 Methodology – How we inspected Teens Creative Thursday?**

The inspection took with 2 Young Inspectors and Young Inspectors Lead

## **4.0 Review analysis- What we reviewed**

### **4.1 Staff**

Young Inspectors stated that they were greeted nicely by both members of staff at Girl's Night. They both left feedback to say they found the staff friendly, happy, fun and helpful. One of the young inspectors commented to say "more staff would be better" there were 8 girls in attendance and 2 members of staff delivering the club, another comment left by a Young Inspector was that the staff could "talk slower (when giving instructions)"

### **4.2 Fun and enjoyment**

Young Inspectors both had lots of fun during the session. Both of the Young Inspectors felt happy and would attend the session again, one of the young inspectors had attended the session regularly at the time proceeding to the inspection. "I liked the cooking activity" were the comments left by both of the Young Inspectors.

"It would be good if they had ingredients for vegans even if they did not know (a vegan was attending)".

### **4.3 Accessibility**

Accessibility was discussed with each of the Young Inspectors; it was felt that Teens Creative Thursday location of St Catherine's school was not accessible to wheelchair users as the buildings are set on various levels with no ramp access. There was no lift available. Both of the Young Inspectors also commented that there was "no signs about short breaks"

One of the Young Inspectors left the following comments; "you should maybe have ramp access for children with wheelchairs so anyone can attend; it would be good to put some signs up; it would be good to have a lift so wheelchairs can go as well and the path is very thin" (it was explained to the Young Inspector that the club was not advertised as inclusive to wheelchair users due to the inaccessibility of the location.

### **4.4 Safety and Surroundings**

Both Young Inspectors that participated in Teens Creative Thursday felt that they were safe when attending the activity. Both of the Young Inspectors commented that they were not told about any safety. "It would be good if you could tell us about (fire) safety".

### **4.5 Food and Dining experience**

There are no facilities available on site to purchase food or drinks. Snack was provided – a plate of biscuits and a drink. One of the Young Inspectors was gluten free which was not catered as the organisers had not been made aware by the Young Inspectors lead she did however have her own snacks with her.

## **5.0 Summary of Inspection - What the Young Inspectors found**

Young Inspectors were asked to inspect the safety and surroundings, the staff, accessibility and the fun and enjoyment of the activity.

Both of Young Inspectors said they had enjoyed the session and both would like to attend again. One of the inspectors is a long standing attendee and the other inspected last year (Girls Night March 2017).

## **6.0 Recommendations – How the activity can be made better?**

The Young Inspectors commented that the setting could be improved by moving locations making it more inclusive and accessible to wheelchair users including having signage to identify which session was taking place and how to get there.

### **6.1 Young Inspectors views**

Young Inspectors felt that the session was good overall and both inspectors would like to attend Teens creative Thursday again. They both agreed that the session was good value for money as the ingredients/materials are included in the entry cost.

### **6.2 Young Inspectors Lead recommendations**

I feel that Teens Creative Thursday is a fabulous club, offering a wide range of activities to the participants, including arts and craft, cookery, hair and beauty and dancing is soon to be introduced! Teen's Creative Thursday is open to boys but the leader informed me they don't have any males attending at the moment.

I am aware that the accessibility for wheelchair users is an issue due to the layout of the location at St Catherine's unfortunately this is the only location available to Creative Teens Thursday, however the attendance is usually around 8 participants which is great!

I found the session leader Sam and her helper very friendly, all the girls appeared to have a great rapport with both ladies. I would recommend another member of staff if numbers continue to increase, offering more support to those that need it.

The Young Inspectors Lead did not make the session leader aware of any dietary requirements of the young inspectors attending and Sam tried her best to adapt the brownie recipe for one the young inspectors who had a vegan diet. – A tablet with internet access would have allowed the session leaders or participants to find an alternative recipe.

The price of the session is £5 which I believe is a fair price for a 2 hour session and includes the ingredients/materials in order for the participants to take home the products they have baked/made.



It was the suggestion of the Young Inspectors Lead for the club to request an equipment grant in the next round of Short Breaks funding panel, allowing them to ask for more aprons and boxes to take home the baked goods as the attendees had to share these items. A tablet with internet access would also be beneficial to the group allowing the attendees or leaders to search the internet for alternative recipes to accommodate dietary requirements and take photographs of the attendees taking part in the sessions.

## **6.2 Parents Feedback**

Not available as this session was unsupervised by parents.

## **7.0 Overall award**



**3 stars awarded**

## **8.0 Provider feedback**

Firstly, we would like to thank the Young Inspectors for coming to visit Teens' Creative Thursday and for their comments.

In response to the various areas highlighted:

We are aware of the accessibility issues with our current site and as such we do not advertise the night as being accessible to participants who need wheelchair access. Unfortunately, St Catherine's no longer has use of The Work Station, which was an accessible area.

Young people are made aware of safety issues as and when needed and there are various safety signs around the site that are in both written and Widget form. However, we will review this to see what improvements can be made and aim to do termly reminders with individual updates for new participants.

We are currently looking to recruit a new member of the team for Teens' Creative Thursday, so there are more staff to support the young people with each activity.

Thank you for the suggestion about applying for a small grant for equipment. We have recently received funding for a tablet, which will help our Lead to research activities and get in contact with parents more easily. We will review our cooking equipment and look at applying for a grant for this too.

We are really pleased with the feedback from the Young Inspectors' report – especially as all those that inspected the session said that they would like attend again.