



YMCA NORFOLK

Project Title:

**Mattishall Senior Club**

Stage of Report:

**End of Year Report 22-23**



**Funded by: Mattishall Parish Council**

**Date: 19/4/2023**

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**Summary of what has been achieved to date**

Mattishall Senior Youth Club continues to shine as a provision for the young people in the local community. They continue to communicate well with one another whilst offering space for everyone to explore and find activities that they enjoy and best suited towards.

The hall space at Mattishall lends itself well to allowing different activities to go ahead whilst all in the same space, which decreases the element of 'boredom' or being 'stuck' in an activity. By also allowing this choice among the activities we offer, ensures that the young people feel empowered to make their own decisions and to think about trying something new and out of their comfort zone. The space in Mattishall can get loud due to it being one expanse and could be seen to be overwhelming for some, the team have overcome by opening up the outside space (when the weather allows) to allow young people to be louder and to release some energy before then coming into a shared space. By also giving young people this opportunity ensures the freedom of choice and to interact with the young people in team games building on team cohesion and communication skills.

We have had themed activities running across the year, which have been inline with dates in the diary. This is to ensure that young people are aware of events that occur wider than their community and how we can get involved. These activities are available to all, however we still offer freedom of choice to participate. Encouragement over enforcement, to ensure that Mattishall Senior Youth Club is an enjoyable experience for all rather than an extension of a school environment.

Areas that have been challenging have been due to friction between young people at the sessions which has escalated due to outside influences. This has however, been managed by ensuring that young people are safe within the youth club, behaviors have been managed appropriately and Staff at the Youth Club have access to further resource such as the Out of Hours service at YMCA Norfolk. Each young person and their family is aware of the code of conduct for the youth club when the register and the actions if less than satisfactory behaviour occurs.

## Highlight of Project delivery and Next Steps

YMCA Norfolk are happy to see young people in a space enjoying themselves. It is great to see that young people are using a resource that is funded by their parish council that is having a positive impact on their social skills and wellbeing.

Those who attend Mattishall Senior group are happy to give their opinions on what they would like to see at youth club and things that they find challenging or not as fun.

From conversations had with young people, a movie night occurred using the projector, cushions and yoga mats. This allowed the young people to have a more quiet and chilled evening, however still had time to enjoy with their friends in an environment that was warming and welcoming to all.

One highlight was an evening in which the young people had access to a new game that was donated by 'Big Potato'. The young people did not enjoy the concept of the game and how it should have been played, but created their own version. At times, staff did have to calm down the situation but this should initiative among the group and the increase in confidence to conduct activities with their peers. Whilst this particular activity was going ahead, young people were also engaged in crafting activities making things to take home and actively saying that they were 'proud' of their achievements. These areas of work do not appear in the figures of attendance but this shows the impact the youth club is having. When asked on this particular night about the youth club and what they enjoyed most, many said 'everything' with some saying that it was 'fun'.

Another highlight is young people wanted to take action at their own youth club regarding the tuck shop. Young people have started to get involved with the management of the tuck, taking money and giving others their change back. This is helping young people develop their communication and social skills as well as improving their maths and money handling. Young people attending youth club have been through a tough time with the pandemic and the change between handling cash and using automated systems, so by incorporating this activity into the youth club has allowed us to bring in life skills in a fun and engaging way. We hope through this engagement that young people will be aware of the money left in the tuck shop and where we may have a surplus and have a voice in how this money is spent. Some ideas have included more expensive items in the tuck but still at a low cost others have included added resources or activities into the mix. This engagement also allows for a continued positive approach to their environment.

A step forward for the club will be to introduce roles within the group. This would include the role of supporting the tuck shop but we would also like to include peer support and activity support. We would like to involve the young people in the creation of this role to ensure that it suits the young people and that this again is young person led. These roles would include training and support along with certification of achievement.

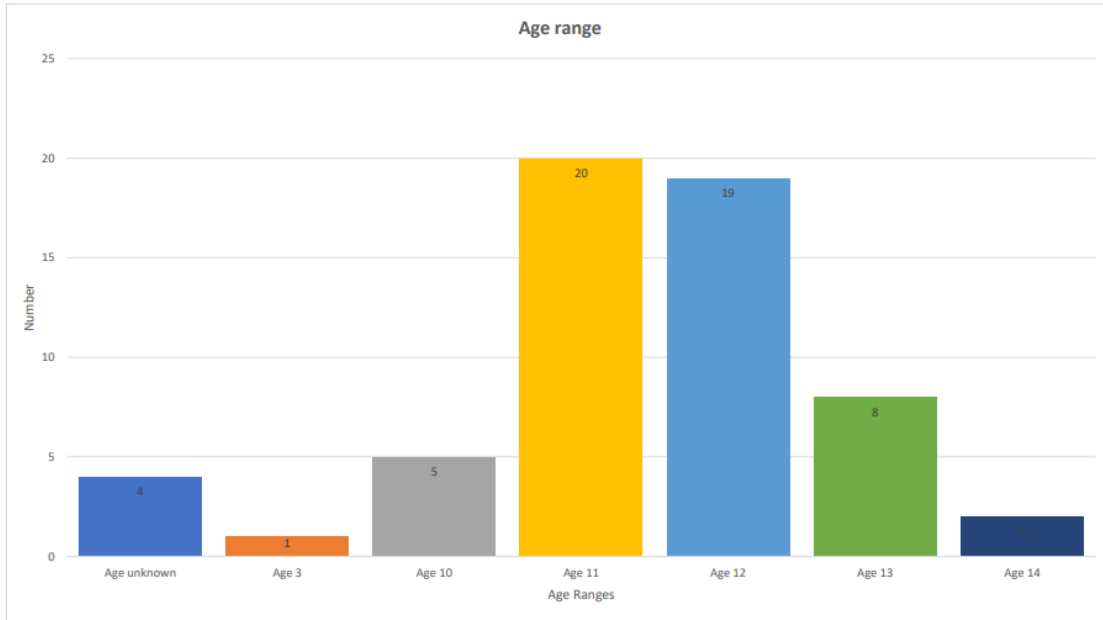
Activities will continue to be led by young people, but we will start to look at activities that would allow young people to learn about their wider community and the wider world. We would hope that youth club could be a starting block for young people.

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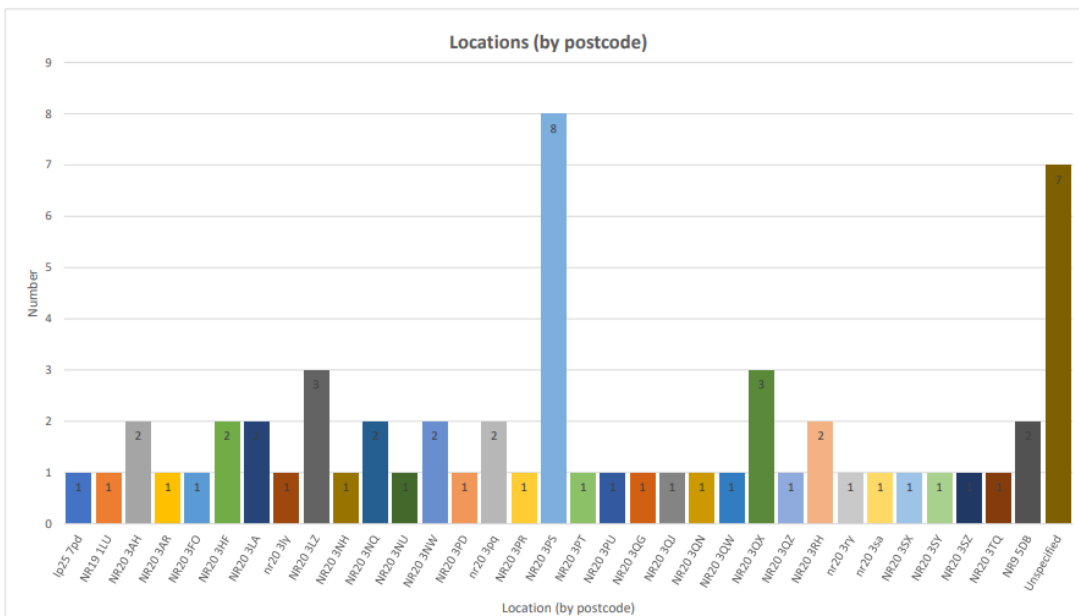
## Additional Information

Pictures/Diagrams of details relating to delivery

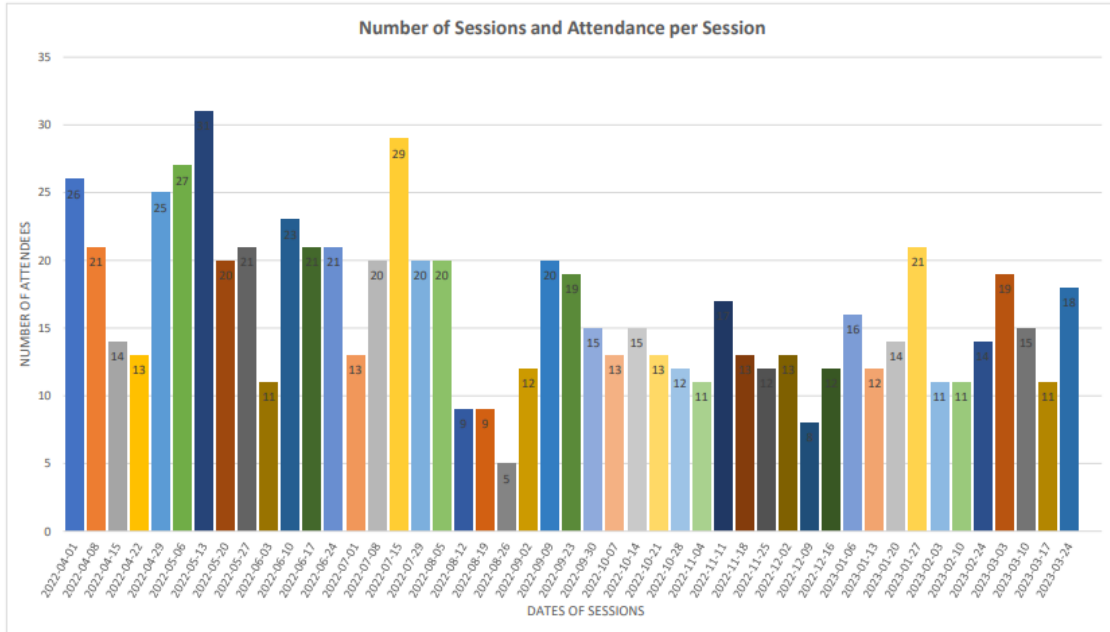
### Age of attendees



### Postcodes of attendees



# Session Attendance



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### Further comments/feedback for funder

Use the space below to add any further comments/feedback for the funder that highlights the success of the project.

Mattishall Senior Group has been delivered for many years but this year has seen the increase in young people's ability to be creative and show ownership towards their youth club. With this increasing, we hope that this will then show further into the desire to look after their local community.

We look forward to the new year ahead with developing some peer support/development activities which include running the tuck shop and also volunteering with the younger youth club.

To ensure that this enthusiasm for the youth club continues, we will also create opportunities for young peoples voice to be heard. This will be through the development of consultation periods that allow young people to have a say in what activities are available, what events they would like to celebrate or what items are available within the tuck shop.

Thank you so much for supporting YMCA Norfolk and our mission of transforming young lives. Your contribution is hugely appreciated by our young people, staff and trustees.

### Kind Regards,

Name:

Charlie Smith

Job  
title:

Community Partnerships Manager

**On behalf of YMCA Norfolk**