

'The way the youth sector has come together, both locally and nationally, has shown how we can work together to respond to the needs of young people.'

Young Bristol has been at the core of Bristol's communities for over 90 years, adapting and evolving when faced with challenges, to ensure that we are there in local communities, providing safe spaces, empowering and inspiring children and young people to overcome and achieve great futures.

This has been a year unlike any others, as we were faced with the unprecedented challenge of supporting young people during a pandemic and multiple national lockdowns. At a time when we knew that young people desperately needed safe spaces to go to, opportunities to connect with their friends and to try something new; we were not able to open the doors of our clubs and activity programmes for large periods of the year. With that in mind, I am incredibly proud of the way that the Young Bristol team adapted its way of working to continue to meet the needs of young people.

The effects of the pandemic on young people are significant, but are not new, and have served to highlight the issues of loneliness, wellbeing and poor employment prospects that so many young people across the city were sadly already facing. There are no quick answers to these issues, but we know the preventative value and long term impact of our work, and we remain committed to providing quality open access provision in our local communities.

Looking to the future, we want to build on what we have learnt from the last year and to invest in our people, facilities and partnerships to meet the increasing demand for our support. With that in mind, I have been really pleased to see the way that the youth sector in Bristol came together through this period and we are looking forward to working as part of the Bristol Voluntary and Community sector (VCS) youth work group to develop and deliver its new strategy.

As we look ahead, I am pleased to share our 2020 – 21 Impact Report, which demonstrates the **passion**, **drive** and **commitment** of the staff team, trustees, fundraising committee and volunteers behind Young Bristol. Thank you for your fantastic and continued support, and I hope you enjoy reading our impact in this year's report.

Jamie Cameron CHAIR OF YOUNG BRISTOL

"help ignite, fuel and support those we work with."

For communities where children and young people are at risk of poverty, food insecurity, personal safety and mental ill health, the range of programmes Young Bristol continues to offer are an essential lifeline for many as is evidenced by this years Impact Report.

The past year has seen Young Bristol and the children and young people we work with come face-to-face with the barriers and challenges presented by the pandemic ranging from disruption to their education, lack of IT access to food insecurity. I was incredibly proud of the Young Bristol team throughout the pandemic as the Team stepped forward, not only quickly turning many of our programmes into services that young people could access from home; but support services that young people and their families needed.

As we work in more Communities across the City, we know that every child and young person wants to be the best they can be. A growing amount of published research shows community-based, early intervention programmes have a long-term, positive impact on an individual's personal and social development. Providing access to out-of-school enjoyable, fun activities for children and young people in a safe environment with their friends underpins our approach and should not be underestimated. But this is only one important element of what we offer. It's also about community and individual trust. Trust that leads to strong relationships, which in turn, create the magic that encourages individuals to open up, to share how they feel and get the support to shine.

In this report you will see how our work continues to change lives; and it is these stories that **inspire all of us to do more**. I am so lucky to be part of a Team, who help ignite, fuel and support those we work with.

We're never surprised but always overwhelmed by our individual and corporate supporters' generosity, especially during the past challenging year. I would like to personally thank them together with our Board of Trustees, Fundraising Committee, volunteers and last, but not least the dedicated staff team

Lee J. Williams DLCHIEF EXECUTIVE



Young Bristol is a youth-driven charity that works to offer a choice of opportunities and experiences for all young people

Founded in 1928, Young Bristol has evolved into one of Bristol's leading youth charities, providing critical out-of-school services for young people of 8-25 years in communities across the city.

Today we are recognised as Bristol's leading provider of community-based youth services, through our community youth club network based in some of Bristol's most challenging communities, and a valued provider of outdoor activities, creative arts, mobile youth services, outdoor employment, and informal educational programmes for young people.

We believe that every young person has the right to discover what they're capable of.

OUR MISSION: to be an **outstanding** provider of **high quality** community-based youth services and **innovative** programmes that **positively** and **sustainably impact** the lives of young people.



Our Impact in 2020-21

2,025

young people supported by our programmes during COVID-19

qualifications awarded to young people ages 8 - 25

20,492

reached on 69 interactive videos on social media

communities supported across Bristol and the received youth provision surrounding areas

629

face-to-face and online sessions delivered

new communities during 2020-21

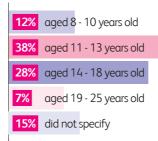
Young Bristol recognised

- Young Bristol honoured with The Queen's Award for Voluntary **Service** in June 2020, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK.
- A finalist for The Team of Heroes Award at the Bristol Young Heroes Awards in 2021.
- A finalist for the **Charity of The** Year Award at the 2021 Bristol Life Awards.

Demographics

Of the young people Young Bristol worked with throughout 2020-21:





42% South Bristol

26% North Bristol

18% East Bristol

Surrounding areas

Central Bristol

Did not specify

The impact of COVID-19 on youth services

March 2020 saw the country go into the first national lockdown in response to the global pandemic. Valuable services were forced to shutdown their safe spaces, and children and young people faced isolation like we have never experienced before. Some spent months confined to a home that is neither nurturing or secure.

The youth sector was visibly impacted by COVID-19, with community venues forced to close their doors, and restrictions and lockdowns impacting how we could engage with the young people who so vitally needed our support. The safe spaces that play a key role in children and young peoples development, now had to adapt to ensure that young peoples needs remained at the forefront throughout the pandemic.



Our Community Youth Clubs were delivering at an average **30% capacity** due to COVID-19 restrictions



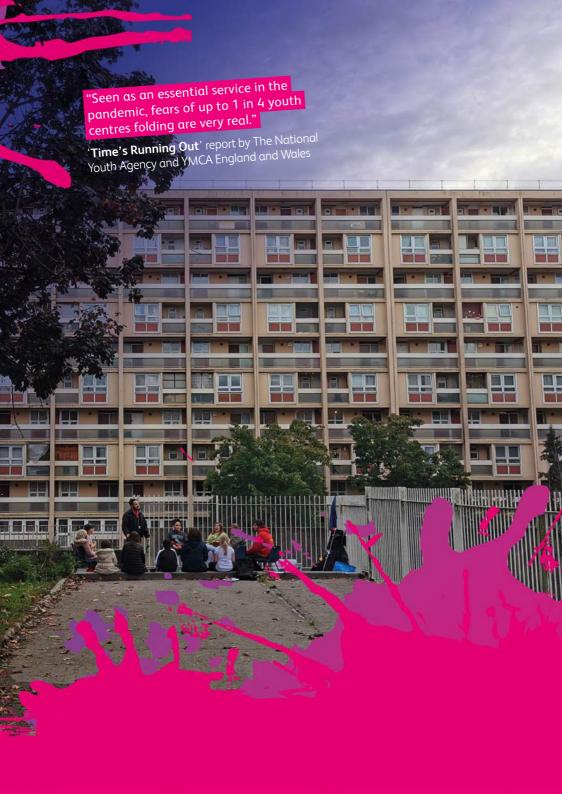
Our venues opened face-to-face for 42% of the year, due to national lockdowns



of sessions in 2020 - 21 were **delivered online**



of our community venues were restricted to working **outdoors only** throughout the year During one of the most difficult years, Young Bristol responded at the frontline, building a delivery of online services, providing valuable tools and resources to support families at home. The Young Bristol team continued to be there, firefighting to support the children, young people and families we work with. And when we could, we were back out in the communities that need us the most.





Bringing youth services to the homes of young people

As a result of COVID-19, now, more than ever, children and young people need Young Bristol's preventative, comprehensive approach to providing stimulating programmes that support their healthy development.



The COVID-19 pandemic forced our team to challenge our ways of working. In March 2020, the Young Bristol team responded quickly to build an online programme that was both interactive and educational, and allowed us to maintain a positive and supportive relationship with the young people we work with. During this time we worked in partnership with Bristol City Council, Avon and Somerset Police, and other voluntary sector organisations as a collective response.

We continued to review, adapt and improve our online programme throughout the pandemic, ensuring that the needs of young people remained central to the services we were delivering.

Throughout the 2020/21 lockdowns...



views on 69 Boredom Buster videos



young people engaged with our detached youth work team in Bristol and BANES



young people received regular 1-2-1 support via SMS and phone calls



virtual sessions delivered during 2020 – 21



families in need received packs to support them to get online



families were supported weekly with food parcels from Broad Plain & Riverside Youth Project

"I am really excited before the Positive Changes group starts. To be honest it keeps me better behaved! If I wasn't doing it I would probably be getting into arguments at home."

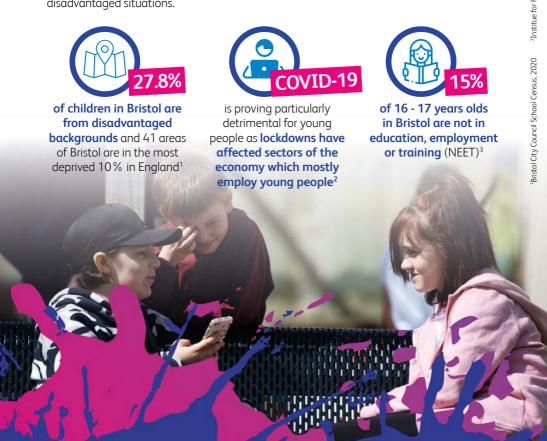
Young person who took part in Positive Changes online programme, which tackles anti-social behaviour in Hartcliffe

The impact of lockdown

on young people in Bristol

Sadly due to COVID-19, many children and young people now face the cumulative impact of mental health, the widening education gaps, and falling behind with their learning at school.

The harmful effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are expected to be the most damaging to children and young people in the poorest neighbourhoods, and those in already disadvantaged situations.





These statistics paint a truly stark picture of how the coronavirus crisis will impact young people in Bristol. An alarming proportion of young people are feeling increased levels of anxiety, and fears are building about their future.

With Young Bristol's venues closing, it was important that our online provision not only transported young people, but provided them with meaningful, educational and transformative opportunities. Online we delivered a programme of sessions which aimed to help young people ages 8-25 to take part in training workshops, work towards gaining qualifications, and use their voice to make a positive influence.



nationally-recognised qualifications were awarded across our Creative Programmes in 2020/21



trainees ages 16 – 25 were supported online through our Outdoor Employment Programme supporting them to access future employment



young people continued to dedicate their time to making a difference through our Youth Voice programme



young people who don't attend mainstream educational settings were supported through Broad Plain & Riverside Youth Projects 'Alternative Learning Provision'



of 18 young people aged 10 - 15 at risk of anti-social behaviour rated their moods 5 out of 5 after completing our Positive Changes programme



Supporting young peoples development online during lockdown

We have seen first-hand how important having regular contact, and engaging with young people online is during lockdown. Despite the doors of our community venues being closed, our team of youth workers have continued to make a positive difference in the lives of the young people we support.

Becky, aged 10, has been a member at Hartcliffe Club for Young People since 2018. She has been known to often be dismissive to staff and to the activities sometimes on offer at the Youth Club, with her behaviour often resulting in her only spending time with one or two other members at the Youth Club.

In March 2020 during the first lockdown, our Youth Workers invited Becky to take part in our Positive Changes programme online, which supports young people ages 10-15 at risk of anti-social behaviour, by engaging with them through creative, sports and discussion-based workshops. Our team felt Becky would benefit from being able to socialise during lockdown, as well as it giving our Youth Workers the opportunity to regularly check-in with her.



At first our team struggled to maintain Becky's attention and hyper-activity. Whilst this could be off-putting, our team maintained contact with Becky and her family, encouraging her to keep attending weekly; which she did. The team were thrilled to see her return week upon week.

Throughout 2020/21, Becky slowly became more and more involved with our online provision, getting involved with discussions and even leading on the Positive Change's groups social activity, suggesting a litter-pick in her local community and creating a giant junk sculpture which could be displayed at her Youth Club to encourage others to not litter. Becky now shows enthusiasm in the programmes future plans, and since the Youth Club has reopened is enthusiastic about taking part in new activities!

It has been fantastic to see that despite lockdown impacting how we can engage with young people, Young Bristol have continued to play a vital role in young peoples personal development.



COVID-19 restrictions across the youth sector saw our community venues open for just 42% of the year. Usually bustling and vibrant spaces, with an open door year-round to all children and young people, our team of Youth Workers now found themselves reopening with restrictions and reduced capacity, whilst supporting young people with more complex needs due to increased anxiety, family tensions and the loss of social contact with other young people.

We pride our community venues in being safe and supportive spaces where children and young people are **empowered to imagine**, **and achieve great futures**. During 2020/21 when national lockdowns eased, our community venues once again became safe havens for children and young people, delivering critical out-of-school services, educational, and inspiring creative programmes. Our mobile youth provision travelled back into communities where there are no youth services; and our outdoor activity team opened young peoples eyes to new experiences right on their doorstep.



In 2020/21...



young people were supported through 95 outdoor activity sessions providing them with new and unique experiences



free meals were provided through 51 Holiday Clubs to help fight holiday hunger during the school holidays



contacts with young people through our Youth Club on Wheels in 7 communities with no previous youth services



young people were supported face-to-face at our 8 Community Youth Clubs across Bristol



young people took part in social action projects which saw them make a difference in communities across South Bristol



'As restrictions continue to ease, the demand for youth services will have never been greater. Young people emerging from lockdown will need support, positive activities and a safe place to socialise with friends, more than ever before.'





'He never lets his lack of sight hold him back from his desires - kayaking has given him a belief in his sporting abilities!'

Gabe, aged 13, joined Young Bristol's Kayak Club in early 2020 prior to the pandemic. "When Gabe started kayaking it was a big experiment which challenged him in ways that his other favourite sport, swimming didn't," says Gabe's mum. "Before joining Young Bristol, Gabe had only every been canoeing on holiday in a two-person boat, but this requires an extra bit of courage for someone who is severely visually impaired."

Gabe is an incredibly fearless and self-motivated individual. Over the last year when he has attended sessions in between lockdowns, his confidence in kayaking has developed enormously; progressing from a 'sit on top' kayak, to now a 'closed cockpit kayak', as well as taking on white water rapids in the Forest of Dean. To many, capsizing or paddling fast-moving water is a psychological challenge. To overcome this as a partially sighted individual is even more impressive!

As his skills improve, Gabe is now an important member of the Kayak Club, helping nervous paddlers develop their confidence and skills, with his calm and confident manner. "His self-esteem and confidence have grown enormously," says Gabe's mum, "Sporting activities, especially team sports at school can be very trying and demoralising for someone with a visual impairment. Kayaking has given him a belief in his sporting abilities."

Gabe was recognised as the $Bristol\ Young\ Heroes\ Awards\ 2021\ `Sporting\ Hero'.$



Looking to the future

Since April 2021, our programmes have re-engaged with young people face-to-face at extraordinary levels. Our programmes have increased their weekly sessional offer working with young people indoors once again.

In-line with national youth sector guidance we have been able to increase capacity at our venues, welcome new members to our programmes, and expand our provision into 3 new communities in and around Bristol.

11,191

contacts with young people during April - October 2021 903

face-to-face sessions delivered during April – October 2021 609

new young people attended Young Bristol's programmes





As we look to the future, we reflect on our work during the pandemic and the increasing need for youth services within our city. We will utilise our learning, evidence and conversations with young people and the wider community as we move forward to improve our services, and ensure that we continue to provide high quality outcomes which support young people to achieve great futures.



To be launched in January 2022, Young Bristol has consulted with children and young people, our supporters, national bodies and stakeholders, together with the wider community in 2021 to explore how we can improve our services, aligning with national and city-wide youth service strategies. These conversations will help to shape Young Bristol's strategy and development in the coming years, addressing the impact of the crisis on children and young people, and focussing on resilience to respond to future needs.



We will continue to reinforce our core purpose, putting young people at the heart of everything that we do, by providing opportunities for personal and social development, skills for life, opportunities to grow, and pathways to employment; together with a safe space to connect with others. Young Bristol will listen to, empower and advocate young people's unique voices to be heard and valued.



Equality, diversity and inclusion are fundamental to our core purpose of helping every young person to discover what they're capable of. Bristol is a vibrant, inclusive and diverse city. It is vital that we come together to ensure that young people have access to groups and activities in their community where they feel like they can belong.





'It's a fun way to find out who you are and there is a lot of self- discovery'

Young Bristol's Outdoor Employment Programme has been working to support young people across Bristol into employment for over 7 years.

Dan, 22 first attended Young Bristol's programmes during college in 2019, and it was then that he found out about the wide variety of opportunities available to him. Looking to take that next step in developing his skills, Dan decided to join the Outdoor Employment Programme. "It is the being able to have someone watch you week in and week out, who can give you tips - that is the main reason I started going", said Dan.

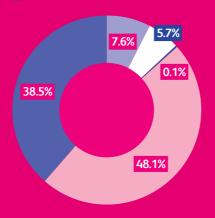
Dan has since been attending the programme regularly for nearly 3 years, meeting other young people with similar interests and engaging with a variety of training and opportunities offered. Dan has been given more responsibility as a trainee, helping at Young Bristol's residential programme, delivering archery sessions for over 180 young people. These responsibilities and opportunities were a huge confidence booster to Dan. "Young Bristol has been one of the biggest reasons for my confidence", and this confidence has even carried into his career and to new employment opportunities, "without Young Bristol I don't think that I would have had the confidence to work at Bristol Zoo, and interact with different people from different backgrounds and ages".

The team at Young Bristol don't just help young people to develop skills around employment, but also provide trainees support with life advice. The social aspect of Young Bristol has also been really great for Dan, and this has been especially important through the virtual sessions during COVID-19, with Dan sharing 'how it's nice to see familiar faces and have a chat'.

Through Young Bristol Dan has been able to experience many different opportunities, and now thanks to the programme, has gained multiple qualifications. When asked what advice he would give to other young people considering getting involved in the programme, "I would definitely encourage it, because no matter why you are starting, there are so many benefits! You get life advice, hard skills with different activities, and there is a social side to it too."

Our finances 2020-21

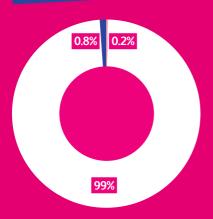
Where did our funds come from?



2020-21 Income

Donations and legacies	£	82.897	
Other trading activities	£ 63,701		
Investment income	£	1,066	
Charitable activities	£	528,449	
Other income	£	423,346	
Total	£ 1	,099,459	

Where did our funds go?



2020-21 Expenditure

Raising funds	£	1,577
Charitable activities	£	691,122
Other	£	5,262
Total	₤	697,961

A full set of Young Bristol's 31 March 2021 Year End Accounts are available upon request. Please email info@youngbristol.com or call 0117 929 2513.

How you can

make a difference



Make a donation

Our vital work relies on your kind donations, big or small. Make a one off donation, or donate regularly to Young Bristol through a monthly direct debit. Here's how your donation could make a difference:

£5 a week for a year pays for two evenings of Youth Work for 50 young people with a qualified youth worker

£10 a month for a year pays for 12 children to spend a day canoeing

£70 a week pays for one young person on our Outdoor Employment Programme to gain a qualification

£1.2k keeps a Youth Club running for a whole month

Help raise vital funds

Organise your own fundraising event, sign up to run The Bristol Half Marathon or The London Marathon, or even fundraise with friends. Our work is only possible through the generosity of our supporters.

Leave a legacy

By leaving a gift in your Will to Young Bristol, you will provide a young person with a safe place and positive opportunities when they need it most.

Support through your company

Working with companies is a mutually beneficial partnership, where you and your company can share your skills and expertise, whilst supporting a local cause. Choose Young Bristol as your company's Charity of the Year, share your skills at our programmes, or organise a team volunteering day to make a difference at our community venues.

Share your experience

If you're starting your career, wanting to share your expertise, or returning to work, volunteering can help build your confidence, skills and experience. From marketing and social media, to finance.

Partnerships transforming the lives of young people during a challenging year

Partnerships are vital to Young Bristol's work and aim to be mutually beneficial; ensuring shared value and impact. We are incredibly grateful to our corporate partners who went above and beyond during 2020/21.

Local business SR2 (Socially Responsible Recruitment), chose Young Bristol to be one of two of SR2's Charity of the Years during 2020/21. At SR2 it is important "to not just write a cheque", but to be as involved as possible in the charity; and Young Bristol provides multiple opportunities to do so, which results in "a definite increase in staff engagement", says Chris, owner of SR2.

During 2020/21, SR2 donated over £29,000 to Young Bristol, as well as six members of their team getting involved in Young Bristol's Road to River Duathlon fundraising event, which saw them fundraise an additional £600!

2021 saw the partnership continue, with SR2 continuing to engage with further volunteering opportunities to benefit the local community, as well as a organising a fundraising challenge which saw their team cycle virtually from Bristol to Berlin... and back.

SR2's partnership with Young Bristol continues to have a positive impact, "Our partnership with Young Bristol feels like a good fit for us and even in the current climate, is a partnership that can grow."

Thank you SR2!



At Young Bristol we believe that by bringing together dedicated and committed individuals and organisations, together we can make a long-term positive impact on the lives of young people.

Young Bristol's partnership with BrisDoc Healthcare Services began in December 2019, following Young Bristol's work with young people being put forward by staff at their Community Fund meeting as an organisation to support during 2020/21.

Kelly Shore at BrisDoc Healhtcare Services said, "Young Bristol do an amazing job offering support and training to disadvantaged young people within the local area, these core values are why BrisDoc picked Young Bristol as one of their charities to support locally."

During the pandemic, BrisDoc donated over £10,470 to fund the cost of running Young Bristol's Kayak Club, as well as to support vital improvements at two of our Community Youth Clubs. During lockdown our teams maintained a strong relationship working together on a joint project 'Lockdown Through a Young Person's Eyes'. The project saw young people from our Creative Programmes produce artwork to capture their experiences of lockdown. BrisDoc also supplied 100 selection boxes over the Christmas period of 2020.

BrisDoc during 2021 have volunteered their time at our community venues, with 13 staff taking part in a Voluntary Day which saw them make improvements to the appearance of Ashton Vale Club for Young People, in preparation for the Youth Clubs reopening post-lockdown.

"The Voluntary Day was a first for BrisDoc, it was enjoyed by all involved, and we are looking forward to setting up the next one in 2022."

Thank you

We are hugely grateful for the support of the following organisations who have generously provided Young Bristol with financial donations or support during 2020/21. Our work at Young Bristol would not be possible without your continued support.

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Barclays

BBC Children in Need

BIDFood Bristol

BrisDoc Healthcare Services

Bristol Children's Charity

Bristol Children's Charter

Bristol City Council

Bristol Community

Transport

Bristol Rotary Club

Burges Salmon

Bristol University

Bristol Youth and

Community Action (BYCA)

CAF Tourle Foundation

Car Shop

Channel Comms

City of Bristol College

Clarion Housing Association

Creative Youth Network

Crime Prevention
Through Sport Fund

Cross Country Trains

Commissioner's Community Action Fund

Coop Local
Community Fund

Essex Boys' and Girls Clubs

Garfield Weston Foundation

Global's Make Some Noise

Hargreaves Lansdown

John James Bristol Foundation

Leggwork

Morrisons

Nani Huyu Charitable Trust

National Association of Boys' and Girls Clubs

National Youth Agency (NYA)

Pattersons

Persimmon

Plant-Ex Ingredients

Quartet Community Foundation

Redington

Redpoint Bristol

Richmond Event Management

Selco Builders Warehouse

Services Design Solution (SDS)

Spielman Charitable Trust

SR2 (Socially Responsible Recruitment)

SS Great Britain

St John's Foundation

Sport England

Sovereign Housing Association

Stowey & Bishop Sutton Parish Council

The Basil Brown Charitable Trust

The Bristol Masonic Benevolent Institution

The Department for Education

The Julia and Hans Rausing Trust

The Lalonde Charitable Trust

The Miss Lawrence Trust

The National Lottery Community Fund

The Nisbet Trust

The Rotary Club of Bristol

The Rotary Club of Clifton

The Society of Merchant Venturers

The Southern Co-op Fund

The World Federation of Youth Clubs

UK Youth

Wesport

Woodward Charitable Trust

Yeo Valley

Patron

HM Lord-Lieutenant Peaches Golding OBE CStJ

President and Trustee

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Trevor Jones MBE

The High Sheriff of Bristol

The Lord Bishop of Bristol

The Lord Mayor of Bristol





Get in touch

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Young Bristol
Works for young people

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