



ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018



SHAPE

“Where every child’s voice matters”

staying **S**afe being **H**ealthy enjoying and **A**chieving making a **P**ositive contribution **E**conomic wellbeing



CONTENTS

■ SHAPE PROJECT MANAGER	3
■ SHAPE DEMOCRACY AWARD	3
■ THE SHAPE PROGRAMME	4
■ SHAPE YOUR TALENT	5
■ SHAPE YOUTH FESTIVAL	5
■ SHAPE SURVEY	6
■ MAKE YOUR MARK	7
■ SHAPE YOUTH FORUM	8
■ YOUTH COMISSIONERS	10
■ ANTI-BULLYING ROADSHOW	11
■ NATIONAL YOUTH TALEOVER CHALLENGE	12
■ SHAPE YOUTH CONFERENCE	13
■ CONTACT US	14



SHAPE Project Manager

The SHAPE Programme is the Council's initiative to listen to the child's voice in Sandwell. Over the past 3 years the programme has made significant progress in achieving its objectives. It provides immense satisfaction and pride in knowing the difference the programme is beginning to make in not only providing a voice to children and young people but also in empowering them to build resilience and confidence to become successful. At the same time the programme has been able to tackle some of the pertinent issues affecting young people in this current climate including CSE, online safety and bullying.

The programme would not be a success if it wasn't for the in kind and financial contribution of both internal and external partners. Partnership working is essential to the programme in particular with the events SHAPE Your Talent and SHAPE Youth Festival. Thank you to all the partners for their contribution for supporting and delivering the programme and a special thank you to the Youth Service who have been an integral part.

Young people are at the heart of SHAPE and through SHAPE Youth Forum we have continued to train and develop young people. Forum members have helped and supported all SHAPE events from planning and organising to delivering. Thank you to all those who are part of SHAPE Youth Forum and have been there to share the experience with us.

We hope SHAPE continues to deliver a programme focusing on child's voice and addressing the needs of children and young people in Sandwell.



**SHAPE Project Manager –
Neesha Patel**

SHAPE Democracy Award

Congratulations to St Michael's CE School for winning the SHAPE Democracy Award 2017, for their contribution to the SHAPE Programme. A special mention to Kerry Whitehouse who has ensured that the school are involved in a number of events throughout the year including the Anti-Bullying Roadshow, Clickwise Campaign and the SHAPE our Future Conference.

Jayne Gray - Headteacher of St Michaels CE School

"St Michael's C of E High School is privileged to have such dedicated and enthusiastic pupils within our student body. They are totally committed to enhancing the experiences of others: fellow students; parents; local residents and our wider community. They work tirelessly to provide opportunities for charitable and collaborative work and we are very honoured that they have been presented with this award to celebrate their achievements".

Kerry Whitehouse - School Development Engagement Manager

"Our students have had the opportunity to take part in several SHAPE events over the last twelve months. They loved the SHAPE conference as they had the opportunity to meet other school and take part in workshops with organisations. We are thrilled to have been awarded the Democracy Award for our contribution to SHAPE. It is lovely for our students to receive recognition for all of their commitment and dedication".



**Students of St Michaels CE School receiving the SHAPE
Democracy Award.**

The SHAPE Programme

The SHAPE Programme is a child's voice initiative set up in December 2014. The programme over the past 2 years has been extremely successful in engaging children and young people in positive activities. It has also enabled them to share their views and opinions about issues affecting their lives and how council and partner agencies can help shape services to cater for their needs.

SHAPE is led by Sandwell Council with the Director of Education, Employment and Skills, Chris Ward as the Strategic Lead for the programme supported by Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Councillor Simon Hackett. The SHAPE Strategic Board consists of partners, including West Midlands Police, the NHS and Sandwell College

It focuses on the five overarching outcomes which are fundamental to the wellbeing of all young people:

- **Staying Safe**
- **Being Healthy**
- **Enjoying and Achieving**
- **Making a Positive Contribution**
- **Economic Wellbeing**

The SHAPE Programme is funded by Sandwell Council and partner agencies through Sandwell Safeguarding Children's Board (SSCB). Funding for 2017/2018 was provided in the form of sponsorship from the Albion Foundation, Carillion, Oldbury Viaduct, Kangaroo Pouch and Tesco Extra West Bromwich. In total a funding of £85,000.

Sandwell's Primary, Secondary, Community Schools and Sandwell College have played a significant role in working with the programme encouraging children and young people to participate and the SHAPE Team is grateful for the continued support and commitment schools and college have made and look forward to working together in 2018/ 2019.

The Annual Report showcases the series of events and opportunities that were held in 2017/2018 for young people to come together and share their views and highlights important dates scheduled for 2018/2019.



Supporting Communities Home Symposium Award

The SHAPE Programme was honoured to achieve the Supporting Communities Award through Creative Academies Home Symposium Project. SHAPE was nominated by parents and stakeholders, which demonstrated the impact the programme is having on both children and young people and the value of partnership working to ensure projects within the programme are successful.

Our very own youth forum member, Solomon Livingston, achieved the Overcoming Barriers award too. Read Solomon's Story on how SHAPE has helped him to gain his confidence by introducing him to a mentor to make a difference on page 8.





SHAPE Your Talent

SHAPE Your Talent is a talent show for 8-19 year olds (up to 25 for young people with disabilities), showcasing talents in music, dance and entertainment. This competition has become extremely popular over the last few years progressing from 20 acts in 2015 to 100 acts in 2017, approximately 350 children and young people taking part.

7 heats were held in town Libraries and Coneygre Arts Centre. The Youth Service hosted all heats providing music system and hosting the events. 16 acts were shortlisted going through to a public vote via social media. After an astounding 200,000 votes, 8 finalists were chosen.



In front of a panel of professional judges our finalists wowed the audience with amazing performances. For 8 -13s the winner was Olivia Hanks (Pictured on the left) with runner up, dancers Team Ream. For 14 -19s the winner was Caitlin Parker and runners up Spotlight Dance Group.

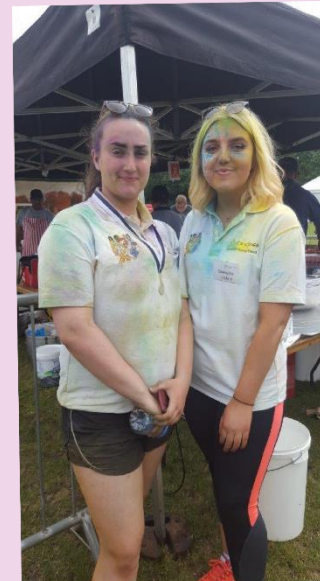


SHAPE Youth Festival

On 22nd July 2017, we saw the third SHAPE Youth Festival take place, where we joined forces with the Albion Foundation who organised the Blind Dave Colour Run. The festival itself aimed at young people aged 0-19 attracts approximately 8,000 people and the colour run saw 500 people take part. Along with the run there were a range of activities designed for all ages including zorbing, football, climbing wall, magic show and arts and crafts.



SHAPE Youth Forum members Emily and Georgina took part in the run



The music stage kicked off with an open mic competition which saw Joseph Shephard taking away the winner's trophy for his wonderful performance singing and playing the guitar. The stage welcomed a number of local artists and finalists from SHAPE your Talent. A number of stalls were also present representing both council and partner services including the Fire Service who conducted a fire safety display, Sandwell's Apprenticeship Service, Think Local, the Family Information Service, Go Play including Creative Academies, Albion Foundation, Groundworks and Murray Hall and the drugs and alcohol service, DECCA, as well as many others.





SHAPE Survey

This year's SHAPE survey went to all secondary school students with our highest response yet of 939 (students years 7 to 13).

Perryfields High School and Wodensborough Ormiston Academy entered the highest responses and received an individual report for their school.

Outlined below are some of the highlights from the survey:

Young People's Concerns

Years 7 and 8:

- 1) School work and exams
- 2) Being bullied
- 3) Nothing worries me
- 4) The way I look
- 5) Gangs
- 6) Don't know

For Year 7 and 8 students school work and exams featured high as they were scared of failing and felt pressured to do well. Bullying issues were mainly around being judged on the way they look which is why this also features in the list. The younger age group felt scared of gangs due to media influence.

For the older age range there were more concerns due to GCSE's and A-levels which ultimately have an effect on their future from getting into University, college and securing a job.

Gangs and youth violence is a concern as they feel unsafe in their neighbourhoods and gangs presence is more visible now than ever before.

Some young people did not feel educated enough on managing money and felt schools should teach more on this topic. Young people at this stage are unsure about what career path they wish to take and therefore how they earn money is a concern of theirs

Years 9 and above:

- 1) What to do after year 11
- 2) School work and exams
- 3) Getting college course/apprenticeship
- 4) Gangs and youth violence
- 5) Nothing worries me
- 6) Being Bullied & Money/Debt

Treatment at School

■ Your faith/religion

■ Race

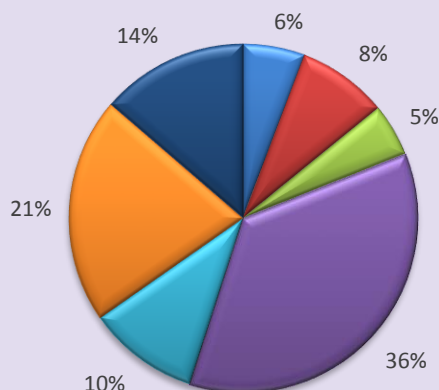
■ Country you have come from

■ What you look like

■ What you wear

■ What your lifestyle choices are

■ Who you love



Of 453 who answered this question, 163 (36%) of young people felt they were treated badly in school because of what they look like, with their lifestyle being the second most popular answer at 21%

Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) and Life Skills

Years 7 to 8's top 3 life skills:

- 1) How to recognise and deal with risky situations
- 2) How to stay mentally and emotionally healthy (including managing stress)
- 3) How to plan for the future and get job-ready

Young people were asked which life skills they would like to cover in PSHE. Years 7 and 8 chose a variety of things. Years 9 to 13 focused on their future

Years 9 to 13's top 3 life skills:

- 1) How to manage money
- 2) How to plan for the future and get job ready
- 3) How to decide which career to choose





Internet Usage

99.2% of respondents used the internet at home, most for over 20 hours a week.

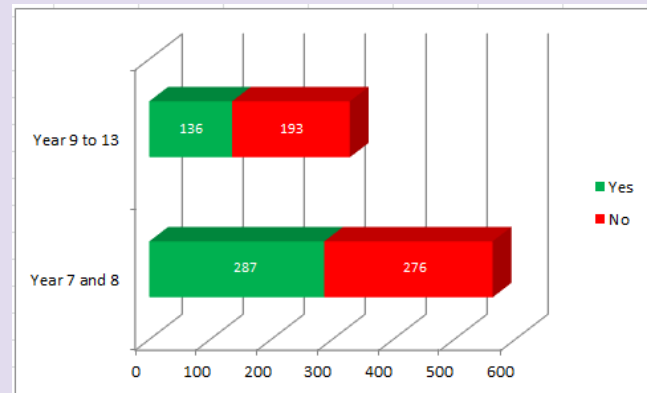
The main reasons for internet usage were homework/research, social media and gaming.



The Future In Sandwell

Although 45% stated they wished to continue living in Sandwell as their family and friends are there, 55% of young people didn't want to continue to live in Sandwell after education due to:

- Wanting to see other places.
- More opportunities elsewhere.
- Too dangerous because of a high level of crime.
- Nothing to do, feel bored.
- Don't want their children living in Sandwell.



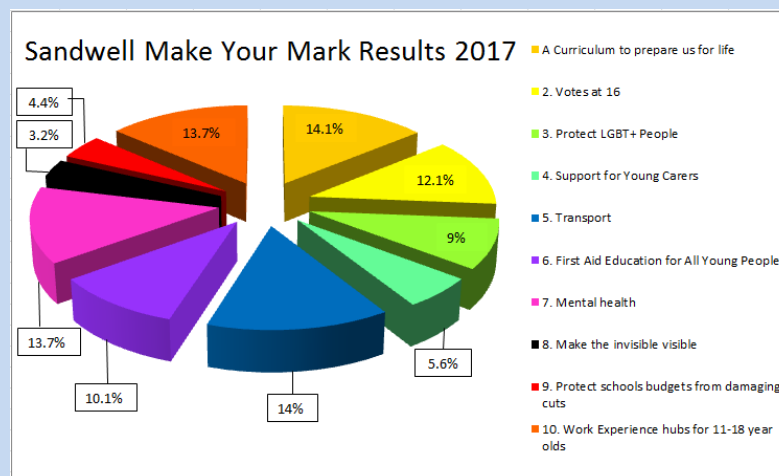
Make Your Mark Results

Young people in Sandwell Schools and youth clubs took part in this year's Make Your Mark ballot, the biggest consultation young people in the country.

6% of the total population of 11-18 year olds (1624) took part in the survey and voted on 10 topics which contribute to what UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) would debate in the House of Commons.

In Sandwell the topics voted highest were:

- A curriculum to prepare for life.
- Make public transport cheaper and more accessible.
- Work experience hubs for 11-18 year olds



SHAPE Youth Forum

As Chair of the SHAPE Youth Forum, it is my pleasure to comment on the multitude of activities SHAPE has been involved with as a Forum. The Forum's role is to be the young person's voice in Sandwell. Your issues and concerns as a young person are taken at the highest regard and SHAPE strives to not only help address these issues, but also help create a Sandwell that young people can find success in.

To reach these goals, SHAPE feeds in issues from the annual SHAPE Our Future Conference and Annual Survey; and develops its programme based on this. The annual SHAPE Youth Festival and SHAPE Your Talent events allow young people to get together, have fun, but also give them an opportunity to share any opinions on services and ideas on what more Sandwell could offer to young people today.

Young people can benefit extraordinarily by being a part of the forum; not only will you help bring what matters most to you as a young person into SHAPE perspective, but you'll be picking up essential transferable skills for life while being part of the voice Sandwell's young people require to have their issues addressed. As Chair, I've not only enjoyed the events SHAPE has hosted, but I've seen myself grow as an individual within SHAPE as I began with very little confidence. SHAPE allowed me to flourish and gain enough confidence in my own ability and ideas that I can now chair the Forum.

This is an opportunity for young people with aspirations and ambitions and they must not miss out on – you are the voice for Sandwell, and your voices are there to be heard. Being involved with SHAPE, you will allow your voice to do just that. Read our case studies below to find out what activities we have been involved in this year



Overcoming Barriers - Solomon Livingston

SHAPE has provided the opportunity for a forum member, Solomon, to overcome his fears and offered mentoring. Read Solomon's story below to hear about the impact this made.

"My mentoring allowed me to come out of my shell and to do much greater things than I could do before it gave me much more confidence in my abilities than I had before mentoring. My mentor, Ash Butt, was a great help to me; he showed me how to overcome my confidence and low self-esteem issues, he taught me about how to overcome my shyness towards other people especially in a speaking situation. But he also taught me that my shyness was a good quality too that I had and still have to this day and because of this support from Ash I was able to give and speak about a presentation on Anime, a subject that I enjoy talking about in front of other members of the SHAPE forum and my family. Because of this mentoring and presentation I no longer feel as though I am nervous in this type of situation but instead find myself excited to speak with new people and make new friends. Winning the Overcoming Barriers Award for overcoming adversity in my life has given me much more confidence and a sense of pride and this is all thanks to my brilliant mentor Ash and support given to me by my parents".

New Member - Faiza Ramzan

My older brother Ismail introduced me to SHAPE. I had heard about it previously and found it very interesting. I like the idea of helping young people and taking part in events. I enjoy working with others therefore it was something I really wanted to do. Since joining SHAPE I have attended meetings and events and taken part in various discussions to do with young people. I have attended talent shows and judged performances. I like the people I work with and I look forward to the future events, in particular the SHAPE Youth Festival.

Being a Forum Member - Ismail Ramzan

The SHAPE Youth Forum is an opportunity that allows young people to express their ideas and opinions on topics that may be affecting our young generation and being a member of the forum allows you to become a representative for young people so that their voices may be heard which involves meeting new people and going to new places. An example of this is meeting the Chief Superintendent, Richard Baker. Through his work with the police, he enables us to tackle issues to do with crime, such as gang violence and knife crime which has had a detrimental impact on young people living in Sandwell.

Our Youth Commissioners, who are part of our forum, also work with the police to create campaigns that tackle specific problems to do with crime and young people, an example of this is Clickwise (created by Adam Shaikh who is the chair of our forum), which campaigns against young people who are exposed to pornography and sexual abuse.

Another key part of being a forum member is having the opportunity to attend Youth Summits, which gives young people, from a range of boroughs, a chance to show what their campaigns are and how they are addressing the issues within their areas. Also, this allows the police and different youth organisations to be aware of what problems young people are facing and create new innovative ways of tackling the problems in the near future.

Being a forum member can also include helping and taking part in setting up events like the SHAPE Youth Festival and it can be used to branch off to other young peoples services and organisations which you can give your opinion on. Overall the SHAPE Youth Forum, allows young people's voices to be heard and it is essentially a young peoples service





Frank Chapman Young People's Review - David Nemec and Leroy Lokko

Frank Chapman is an outdoor residential education centre used by many Primary and Secondary Schools to visit and offers a number of team building and social outdoor activities, such as high ropes, archery, geocaching, problem solving, climbing and abseiling and many more.

We were provided the opportunity by Frank Chapman to observe and review if the centre was meeting the 10 key outcomes of high quality outdoor learning and delivering what a residential experience for young people should achieve, including:

- The experiences are co-designed between the organisation and provider
- Should be inclusive and offer options for all
- Accommodation, venue, equipment and staffing should provide the best opportunity for achieving desired outcome
- Should provide excellent customer service, before, during and after the visit.

The Head of the Centre, Stuart Messe, was keen on continuing to improve the centre so it met the needs of both teacher and children and young people and offered them the best residential experience.

We have been part of residential however experiencing it as a residential worker was completely different and an eye opener as to how the workers have to build relationships with young people as well as try and ensure the activities are fun and engaging as well as education.

There were many positives identified around how well children were engaged with the instructors and how they encouraged young people to challenge themselves and take part in activities. Further improvements were needed to students being more involved in making choices of what activities to take part in. A full report and recommendations will be presented to the centre.

British Youth Council (BYC) Development Programme - Eve and Summer Livingston

On the first day when we arrived we had an introductory assembly and had a guided tour of the site. We met the other people who were going to be in our teams and introduced ourselves, we then went to our dormitories to settle in. On the second day, we worked with other young people from different areas of the UK on outdoor activities like 'Jacobs Ladder' this helped us to work as a team and helped us to bond as a group. We learned problem solving activities designed to challenge us to think outside the box.

On our third and final day, we did a task within our group this was called 'Forge Ford' during this task we had to have a meeting with the county councillor, this meeting was more of a debate where we got marked on different topics, which we brought up for discussion and for other tasks we had to write letters and ask questions based on the scenarios we think should happen.

We then went to the 'Forge Ford Rally' to get our points across that voting should be allowed at 16 years old.

A Year in SHAPE - Jaskiran Virk

I began SHAPE Youth Forum in September 2016 and am still a part of it today. I was slightly nervous and skeptical of joining as I had little knowledge of the activities and occurrences that take place there. However, upon arrival, I felt comfortable and welcomed by the people and staff who are involved. I then learnt about what SHAPE do over time.

National Youth Take Over Challenge – Simon Hackett

My first activity was the National Youth Takeover Challenge, where I volunteered to spend a day in another person's shoes. For this particular activity, I had chosen to shadow Councillor Simon Hackett, Cabinet Member for Children's Services. On this day, I went to numerous places with him, beginning within the Sandwell Council House and progressing to go to schools and meetings. This enabled me to gather an insight into Councillor Hackett's job, as well as gain an insight to how the council makes a huge positive impact on the local area.

SHAPE Your Talent

Every year, SHAPE Your Talent takes place in order to provide the youth of Sandwell with the opportunity to express themselves and to emphasise the talent in our area. I helped out in numerous talent shows within West Bromwich, Oldbury and Smethwick, as well as participated myself which was a very enjoyable experience. The winner of the talent show receives a £500 prize. I did not make it through, however, I would do it again just for the experience.

As well as participating in the talent show, I hosted the talent show final, with another SHAPE member, which was nerve racking to begin with, however it became very enjoyable as it progressed. The talent in this area is amazing.

SHAPE Youth Festival

Every year SHAPE holds a Youth Festival for people around Sandwell to attend and enjoy themselves. In 2017, we partnered up with the Albion Foundation and incorporated a fun run. The outcome was fantastic and so was the atmosphere.

Children and Young People Panel

I enjoyed what SHAPE had to offer, therefore, I took every opportunity I could. I and two others had participated, as representatives of the youth of Sandwell, to interview the new Chief Executive of Children's Trust. This was a good experience as we were able to see how they will approach their roles and how we can work together to create more opportunities and involvement of the youth in Sandwell in order to make it a safer and more positive environment.

National Youth Takeover Challenge – Leaders Board

I had also participated in the National Youth Takeover challenge as a representative of the Youth Leader's Board, where I and two others proposed many questions to the leaders and directors of the council in an attempt to ameliorate the running of certain aspects, such as Social Services, safety, and involvement with the youth. This was a good experience as we were able to see what the council's approaches to the area are, as well as see the roles of each councillor.



SHAPE Youth Forum Members – Eve, Amina, Priya,
Emily, Kamani, Jas, Leroy and Shyla



Youth Commissioners

The role of a Youth Commissioner is to closely engage with young people to have their issues and concerns raised while being in direct contact with West Midlands Police. In order to ensure these problems are taken seriously and worked on, the Youth Commissioners campaign on key issues over a period of time and present their efforts at an annual Youth Summit at Tally Ho in Birmingham. Youth Commissioners usually meet once every three months.

The role not only gives young people the opportunity to work closely with West Midlands Police, but also allows young people to directly impact the way young people are supported by Police resources and much more. Youth Commissioners represent Sandwell at the Safer Sandwell Partnership Police and Crime Board where the chairs of subgroups and Chief Superintendent of the Police make many key decisions on dealing effectively and efficiently with Sandwell's crime and disorder issues, priorities and emerging trends.

In Sandwell there are two Youth Commissioners who have been elected through SHAPE Youth Forum, Adam Shaikh and Lucy Hunt



Lucy Hunt

Since being the Youth Commissioner for the last year and a half has really made an impact on me and allowed me to gain knowledge of young people in the police force and how different services work together to create a service that will help young people in the long run.

We have had multiple people come into our meetings are held once every few months by attending these meetings are going to widen knowledge of other young people from different areas of and Sandwell and got to share my opinions with others.

The main focus of a Youth Commissioners campaign is arranging to meet different contacts to find out more about different services available to young people. By doing this it allowed me to have contact with different members of the public who offer young people support so in-turn this has allowed me to expand my knowledge of young people. I have found out more about the police force and their new website, disabilities and other support they offer.

I believe a year of being Youth Commissioner will help me to succeed in the future it was an amazing experience and I recommend it to anyone who would like to apply.

Clickwise Campaign

The Clickwise Campaign was a project devised by Adam Shaikh, Chair of SHAPE Youth Forum and Youth Commissioner to highlight the dangers of online safety to young people and their parents.

Being victim of sexual abuse from the age of 8 made Adam more determined to highlight how child sexual exploitation (CSE) can take place easily through the internet and in particular social media. Parents are often unaware of these dangers and Clickwise highlights signs to look out for in terms of grooming and offers them online tools and applications to help protect their children.

Sandwell Council through the SHAPE Programme teamed up with local organisations such as West Midlands Police, Brook, Youth Services and Sandwell's Child Sexual Exploitation Team to develop the Clickwise Campaign. Loudmouth Education and Training will provide a theatre performance and workshop focusing on spotting signs of grooming and exploitation. Safer Sandwell Partnership Police and Crime Board (SSPPCB) provided the funding for the project.

Sessions took place from November 2017 to May 2018 at 7 schools in the Borough

- Rowley Regis – St Michael's C E School
- Smethwick – Holly Lodge
- Tipton – ACE Academy
- Oldbury – Oldbury Academy
- Wednesbury – Wodensborough Ormiston Academy
- West Bromwich – Central Sixth & George Salter



Feedback from parents:

"Fantastic drama production, bought to light how easily a child could be groomed"

"Loudmouth or similar presentations would be great to show the kids/makes it more real and very believable and hard hitting"

"A really excellent informative session. Well done"

"A very useful and informative evening"

Anti-Bullying Roadshow



Launch of anti-bullying roadshow at Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy

The SHAPE Team teamed up with the Police, Youth Services and Community Safety Team to deliver an Anti-Bullying Roadshow during Anti-Bullying Week from 13th – 17th November visiting approximately 600 children and young people in Sandwell.

The Roadshow went to seven Primary and three Secondary schools to carry out interactive workshops with children and young people on the ongoing issue of bullying. Through the SHAPE Programme this issue has been highlighted as a concern to young people from children as young as 4 up to young people aged 18.

The theme for anti-bullying week was “All Different All Equal” and the workshops followed this theme. The children and young people had the opportunity to go on the Council’s Youth Bus, where they designed anti-bullying campaign posters. The Community Safety Theme focused on the topic of hate crime and how it links to bullying.

Schools and academies that took part: Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy, St Paul’s C of E Primary School, Crocketts Community Primary School, Holly Lodge Science College, St Michael’s C of E School, Yew Tree Primary School, Perryfields Primary School, Wednesbury Oak Primary School, Hargate Primary School and Bleakhouse Primary School.

The winning t-shirt design pictured opposite was created by a pupil from St Paul’s C of E Primary School. The T-Shirt design will be used in next year’s anti-bullying roadshow, the runner up was Logan, also from St Paul’s C of E Primary School pictured in the photo along with staff member Nicola Hartland



The winning anti-bullying rap was created by four students Tino, Faizan, Uzain & Farai from Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy who will be recording their rap at Coneysgre Arts Centre.

*“I tried to keep calm
I couldn’t take these rumours
I tried to make it stop
I couldn’t stop those tears*

*I didn’t know what to do
But I knew I had to take action
I had to take action (x3)*

*I deleted my SC
I deleted my FB
I deleted my IG
But nothing changed
I knew I wasn’t safe*

*I thought violence was the answer
I hurt myself
But it made things worse
I got myself excluded*

*I got all the support I could find
It was very emotional
But I knew I had to take action
I had to take action (x3)”*



Winners, Uzain and Farai with the head teacher, Malcolm Lovatt and SHAPE Team

Sandwell Community School

In 2017, we strengthened our relationship with Sandwell Community School. After meeting the new Headteacher, Kevin Morgan, we held 2 events one for Key Stage 3 at Portway Lifestyle Centre and one for Key Stage 4 at West Bromwich Campus. 60 young people attended the conferences focused on "Creating Aspirations". The following workshops took place:

Past/Present & Future – Richard Grant, better known as Dreadlock Alien, undertook a workshop enabling young people to create a poem or rap about their lives.

Youth Services – Who is your Role Model? – young people were asked who their role model was. Majority chose a family member mainly a parent. They also designed their ideal role model.

SHAPE Team – Run around game - Many statements were read out to the young people to see if they agree, disagree or were not sure. These included if money provides happiness, how important education is, if gangs are bad and does family mean more than friendship?

Errol Lawson – Inspirational Speaker – One of the UK's top motivational speakers talked about his life of being involved in gangs, trying to avoid prison and carrying weapons. He turned his life around through his faith and religion and became an entrepreneur showcasing his achievements through books.

Outcomes from the event have been produced in a report and shared with the school to make further improvements.

National Youth Takeover Challenge

National Youth Takeover Challenge took place in November 2017. This national initiative is where Sandwell and partner agencies open their doors to young people and allow them to take their roles or board meetings, this year the following boards were taken over.

Strategic Drugs & Alcohol Partnership Board (SDAP):

Students from Sandwell Community School questioned the board on what impact they felt they were making, their approaches and how they monitor and evaluate the impact of commissioned services. After offering some innovative approaches to how DECCA can make more of an effective impact on drug users, DECCA are now working with schools to change the way they work with young people.

School Health Improvement Group:

Students queried the group on how they are trying to bring variety into secondary school in particular with PE lessons. They debated over school dinners and if healthy options were available whether there would be a large uptake or if this would have the opposite effect with young people not wanting those options.

Leaders Meeting:

Three lucky students took over council leaders and directors meetings. Healthy debates took place on adult social care, safety within West Bromwich and the need for more career opportunities for young people.





SHAPE Our Future Conference

This year's annual SHAPE Our Future Conference took place in parts in December 2017 in two parts, Primary (Key Stage 2) and Secondary.

The Primary School Conference received a positive attendance of 70 children. It focused on road safety, including how speeding can cause accidents, use of seatbelts to keep safe and dangers of using mobile phones while driving. St Matthew's school, who attended, also showcased their Kid's Court Project where children questioned drivers who were speeding outside their school, having a positive impact on drivers recognising their faults. Other topics covered included 5 ways to wellbeing, using innovative ways to show children techniques to ensure they remain well and healthy and also to identify with their emotions. Job skills and how certain skills can apply to many jobs, not what you would typically associate them with and for the category Economic Wellbeing, children were taught to think about money management trying to identify the costs of products then planning an event on a budget.



The Secondary School Conference had an attendance of 30 young people. Workshops were held on 5 ways to wellbeing, careers and job skills including identifying specialist qualifications and knowledge which may be required in certain jobs and life skills with a number of stalls talking to young people about their future and living independently including sandwell college, transport, housing, connexions, think local and many more. The Being Safe category covered gangs and violence where ex-gang member Tanayah Sam from TSA Projects asked young people how they identified with gangs as well as sharing his own story. The students were engaged and interested in Tanayah.

An added feature to the both conferences were individual presentations given by each school council on a project that they have undertaken as a school council which has made a positive difference to their school. There were some great examples such as raising money for charities, improving facilities and meeting with governors to make changes.



SHAPE

CONTACT US



If you are a young person who would like to be part of SHAPE Programme through SHAPE Youth Forum, which meets every two weeks or if you are a school who would like to be involved and nominate SHAPE Champions or would like further information on SHAPE, please contact us on:



email:

SHAPE_Events@sandwell.gov.uk



web:

www.sandwell.gov.uk/SHAPEevents



phone:

0121 569 6164



twitter:

@SHAPESandwell



Save the dates!

April/May 2018

Clickwise Campaign
Oldbury Academy - 17 April
George Salter - 2 May

May/June 2018

SHAPE Your Talent
Auditions: 9 - 19 May
Grand Final: 29 May

July 2018

SHAPE Youth Festival:
14 July

November 2018

Anti-Bullying Week:
12 November
16 November

November 2018

National Youth
Takeover Challenge

November 2018

SHAPE Our Future
Primary: 22 November
Secondary: 23 November





Report produced by Daniel Brown, SHAPE Apprentice
April 2018

