



Boys & Girls Clubs Annual Impact Report 2021/2022

Programmes

Projects

Services

Training

reach ~ involve ~ enjoy ~ achieve



Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022

Introduction

Boys & Girls Clubs is a registered charity founded in 1940 that works to support and represent a membership of local youth groups and organisations, with a collective membership of over 15,000 children and young people across Northern Ireland. In any normal year, we would work directly with over 2000 young people and as we started to see the easing of the covid-19 restrictions, clubs started to reopen and we were able to get back to the pre-pandemic services we offer young people and youth leaders, building our membership and strengthening our engagement.

Throughout this challenging period, we continued to REACH out to all young people to INVOLVE and enable them to ENJOY & ACHIEVE together 'online' and Face 2 Face in shared, non-formal educational activities. We continued to follow the Government legislation and guidelines to keep everyone safe with a focus on supporting staff to adjust to new ways of working.

Boys & Girls Clubs aims to promote the inclusion, engagement and development of all young people regardless of their cultural, political or religious background and to this end we sought to deliver a range of online digital programmes, projects, training and services for young people and their support workers during this period of lessening restrictions.

We now present our Annual Impact Report for the period April 2021 – March 2022 and hope that it adequately conveys a positive yet realistic impression of the vision & mission we work to achieve and the values that steer us during challenging times.

Vision

We envisage a fair and inclusive society which values and supports the development of all young people.

Mission

Boys & Girls Clubs aims to realise the personal development and social education of young people and to work in partnership with our members to realise our vision.

Values – As a voluntary youth organisation and charitable company, we value:

- the potential of all young people, our members, volunteers and staff;
- the active participation of young people in community development;
- the work of all those who support local youth provision wherever it is needed;
- effective youth work and positive activities in community-based youth centres;
- young people's health and well-being;
- the contribution of all who provide leadership for our shared vision to be realised; and,
- the protection & preservation of the natural and physical environments for the benefit of future generations.

DONAL KENNEDY, CHAIR, BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS (NI)

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Activities 2021–2022

The Coronavirus pandemic has presented huge challenges globally to the health and wellbeing of everyone. Boys & Girls Clubs adapted to the new circumstances, legislation and social restrictions whilst reducing disruption where possible to support services and programme delivery. Our offices remained closed to the public in the first part of the year with staff continuing to work from home. As covid restrictions eased in the summer months, staff returned to the office on a rota basis and our services and activities transitioned to a hybrid delivery of both digital and Face 2 Face.

Despite the challenges, Boys & Girls Clubs had a lucrative year and successfully attracted project funding across a wide range of sponsors. These projects complemented the core services that we offer to support our membership organisations

Throughout the year our priorities focused on developing these services and activities achieving this through a dynamic programme of youth work which included the Accredited Youth Work Programme, (AYWP), an 18-month project that involved designing, trialing, piloting and developing the first ever youth work specific framework across five areas; Good Relations; Living in Safety & Stability; Participation; Health & Wellbeing; Diversity, Inclusion and Equality of Opportunity. The project was funded by the Education Authority and the resources have been uploaded onto the EA website.

We engaged & supported **2293 young people and their support staff during 2021–2022** through the Do Something Healthy & Do Something Active (health & wellbeing activities): T;BUC, Together Building a United Community: work force development courses; Training programmes and the Youth Fest programme which was run over 3 days in August and provided the opportunity for young people to learn, enjoy and achieve together after a long year of covid-19 restrictions.



Orienteering was one of the activities the young people enjoyed at the Youth FEST 2021

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Projects 2021–2022

Accredited Youth Work Programmes (Education Authority)

Boys & Girls Clubs successfully completed its pilot on the five areas of accredited youth work programmes. The pilot programmes commenced in May 2021 and were completed in partnership with nine membership youth clubs from across the region. Pilot materials and assessment criteria were co-designed through consultations and focus group research. Programmes took place over a minimum 10-week period and consisted of a variety of learning methods and activities. Pilot evaluations were collated with leaders and participants on an ongoing basis, offering suggestions and feedback which have been instrumental in shaping finished materials.

Good Relations

- 9–13 years; Tullymore Youth Club & Nubia Youth Centre; 17 participants
- 14–18 years; Ledley Hall Youth Club & Deanby Youth Centre; 16 participants

Through exploration and activity, young people gained a deeper understanding of who they were as individuals, who and what influenced their thinking, and how these influences may manifest into negative perceptions of others. They gained the knowledge and skills to be able to manage their emotions better, navigate choices and challenges with more confidence, and ultimately be more respectful of the opinions and lived experiences of others. Ultimately, the programme has contributed towards positive attitudinal change alongside an increased sense of community belonging and feelings of safety.

Living in Safety & Stability

- 9–13 years; Clonmore Youth Club; 19 participants
- 14–18 years; Ledley Hall Youth Club; 10 participants

Using a variety of techniques, for example scenario-based group work, problem solving activities and individual reflection, young people were able to explore common issues in relation to living in safety and stability and relate their learning and skills development to their individual circumstances. Young people developed the confidence, knowledge, and skills to navigate choices and challenges, specifically in relation to risk taking behaviours, online and community safety, friendships/relationships, and self-care. Young people were provided with the knowledge on how to increase their resilience through maximising both internal and external assets available to them, and young people noted the positive impact of this on their feelings of hope, motivation, and aspirations for the future.



Pictured: Young people from Clonmore Youth Club on their presentation evening.



Scan for our AYWP video

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Participation

- 9–13 years; John Paul II Youth Club; 12 participants
- 14–18 years; Corpus Christi Youth Centre; 11 participants

The participation framework offered young people an opportunity to recognise, strengthen and showcase their skills and capabilities relative to increased participative action and active citizenship. Through activity-based learning, young people increased communication skills with both peers and adults, team working skills, and their ability to influence others and advocate on behalf of others. Young people were provided with the opportunity to put their individual skills and qualities into action, through practical youth social action activity. In the older age group, young people planned, organised, and evaluated a health and wellbeing workshop through 'Boogie Bounce', which helped to promote physical activity with music, fun and laughter. Young people reported feeling more confident, particularly in relation to decision making within the club, and reported feeling more motivated and inspired to contribute to their local community.

Health & Wellbeing

- 9–13 years; Evolve Youth Club; 12 participants
- 14–18 years; Clonmore Youth Club; 13 participants

The 10-week framework provided a holistic approach to health and wellbeing, encompassing both physical and mental health. Topics included physical activity, emotional wellbeing, health and nutrition, sleep, and positive coping strategies. Participants reported making small changes within their daily routines which was having a positive impact on their overall wellbeing. For example, a 'steps' challenge encouraged participants to go for a purposeful walk every day, and a 'no fizzy drinks' challenge encouraged both young people and club leaders to look closer to encouraging healthier drink and food choices. Young people reported feeling more knowledgeable in what constitutes a healthier lifestyle, and also showcased the importance of self-care and how they will integrate learned strategies into their day-to-day routines going forward.

Diversity, Inclusion & Equality of Opportunity

- 9–13 years; Hospital Road Youth Club; 10 participants
- 14–18 years; Hospital Road Youth Club; 10 participants

Over the 10-week period, participants explored the topics of diversity, inclusion, and equality of opportunity. Through group discussions and smaller group tasks, young people raised their awareness of diverse groupings, the implications of stereotyping and prejudice, and the importance of respecting difference. Leaders noted noticeable changes in behaviour as the sessions progressed, notably open-mindedness during discussion, and an increased use of non-discriminatory language and behaviour within the club.

Quotes from young people:

"No matter what community or religion you are from you can always come to an agreement"

"Fun and hard-working but with silly things to enjoy"

"Learned about the importance of respecting others and listening to other people's opinions"

"Only last week I had given up on my dream of becoming a paramedic. Last week's session made me realise I know I can do it and I know how to get there".

"Educational and fun"

"It was so fun and I loved it"

"Life changing experience"

"This programme helped me through a lot, and it was fun"

"Learned about how to cope with different scenarios in my life"

"The programme brought us all together"

"I'm buzzing from all the positive things that others in the group think about me. I never used to see myself in that way"

"I don't think you can make the programme any better"

"I never would have dreamed of stepping into a youth club in East Belfast before this programme! Now I can't wait to go."

"Enjoyed everything, especially exploring my life journey and thinking about what's next for me"

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Quotes from partners:

"This was a great programme with younger members as it has given them the skills and knowledge of community relations at an earlier age. The group will be sad to see it finished. Boys and Girls Clubs NI have been outstanding, and I look forward to working with them in the future." (Andrew Linton, Nubia Youth Centre)

"Young people really enjoyed it and felt that it was beneficial to them. Great for Deanby inviting young people from other areas to our facility. Ciara was excellent with the young people and answered all their queries or challenges" (Lorraine Murphy, Deanby Youth Centre)

"The young people from Ledley Hall's feedback on this event has been amazing. The group has gone very well and they have learned a lot about differences and similarities in different people and areas. A special thanks to Ciara for the running of the programme. I and our young people have learnt a lot and been inspired by her work" (Karl Craig, Ledley Hall).

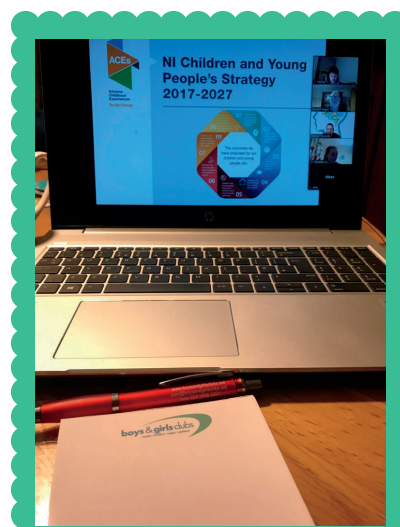


Pictured: Young people from Ledley Hall Youth Club with Education Minister Michelle McIlveen at the AYWP launch event.



Transform for Change Project (Belfast City Council)

Boys & Girls Clubs participated in the West Belfast Transform for Change collaborative project. This project highlighted a need for improved mental health training for those working to support children and young people in the West Belfast area. Boys & Girls Clubs provided Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) training and Mental Health First Aid training to over 15 youth and community workers within the West Belfast area. Training attendees reported increased confidence and competence in responding to mental health concerns within their youth clubs and communities.



Pictured: ACEs training which took place online in January 2022.



Young people from Tullymore Youth Club and Nubia Youth Club, participating in team building at BAC.

Together: Building a United Community

Our Shared Camp (September 2021 – February 2022) – A total of 40 young people took part in the shared camp. Young people came from four youth clubs within Belfast: Ledley Hall Boys & Girls Club, Deanby Youth Centre, Tullymore Youth Club & Nubia Youth Centre. Young people enjoyed good relations workshops, outdoor activities, and a two-night residential in Ballintoy.

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Good Food Toolkit

A group of 10 parents from Saints YC took part in an Eatwell balanced diet training event. The Eatwell Guide shows the proportions in which different types of foods are needed to have a well-balanced and healthy diet. The proportions shown are representative of your food consumption over the period of a day or even a week, not necessarily each mealtime. The Guide applies to most people regardless of weight, dietary restrictions/ preferences or ethnic origin.



Do Something Active Project

Belfast– weekly engagement with 170 young people.

We met with Belfast City Council and their strategic partnership to build upon the success of year 3 of the Do Something Active project and make improvements. The DSA is an all-female project which looks at creating a pathway for participation and empowering young people to become more physically active, engage in a wide range of activities and become more conscious around their nutrition. From this, we were able to recruit 26 “Health Champions” that helped steer the direction of the project and ensure that young people were at the heart of each activity. The project was Belfast based and involved weekly engagement with 170 young women.

As you can see below from our partners, we had a diverse range of organisations involved.

X3 project staff were involved in the delivery and facilitation of the project. Each outcome was achieved for this project and continuation funding was provided for year 4.

- Diverse Youth
- John Paul 2 Youth Club
- Marrowbone YC
- Woodvale YC
- Ledley Hall Youth Club

- Corpus Christi Youth Club
- St. Teresas Youth Club
- St. Colms High School
- St. Gerards School
- St. Joesphs



Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Do Something Healthy

After winning the Chartered Institute of Housing awards in 2020 for Health and Well-being, Radius asked us to expand on our outcomes and roll this out in five areas across NI. The purpose is for educational enrichment and good relations in areas where they have developments. Each of the 50 young people involved worked towards achieving 2 OCN qualifications each and had the opportunity to select their preferred qualifications from below. In the end 117 OCN booklets were submitted and 109 achieved. Three youth workers were employed from across these areas to deliver the project on our behalf. Each young person has completed one award each and the project is underway for completion.

Awards pursued:

- OCN Level 1 in Good Relations (Mandatory)
- OCN Level 1 in Youth Work Practice (Optional)
- OCN Level 2 in Mental Health Awareness
- OCN Level 1 in Healthy Living

- *Dungannon Youth & Resource Centre*
- *St. Johns Bosco (Newry)*
- *Tullymore Youth Club/St. Marys (Belfast),*
- *West Bann (Coleraine)*
- *Cookstown*



Young people completing their OCN Level 1 in Diversity & Good Relations

Youth Development Funding Specification

Development of Drugs and Alcohol Curriculum Resources

Working in partnership with ASCERT this specification was to undertake a comprehensive review across the youth work sector and produce a report of good practice initiatives, both nationally and internationally, to produce a range of learning resources and support materials for use in a youth work setting.

Children and young people were key in helping to identify, influence, inform, design and deliver Drugs and Alcohol projects/programmes with a range of key topics important to them.

We piloted with 50 EA Local Registered Voluntary Youth Organisations and produced and provided EA with a report of the Pilot.

We then planned, designed and implemented the resources for a curriculum for the age bands of 9–13 years and 14–18 years to support youth workers and volunteers to provide opportunities for children and young people to develop their knowledge, understanding and attitudes regarding drugs and alcohol misuse.



Scan for our Drug & Alcohol EA Promo video

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



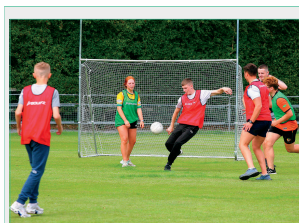
YouthFest 21

Through funding by the Education Authority's, Summer Programme, Boys & Girls Clubs hosted the YouthFest 21. The Event was held in August at the Northern Ireland Civil Service Sports Association, Stormont, following the revised government Covid -19 restrictions.

Over 3 days of fun filled activities young people were able to participate in Quick Cricket, GAA Hurling & Football, Boxing, Cycling, and Orienteering. Other activities included: Inflatable Assault Course, Fly Your Own Kite, Yoga, Dodgeball, Climbing Walls and Wellness Walks and a Petting farm.

We also ran workshops on TikTok, Photography and Yoga

The event was a resounding success with 1205 participants from 21 youth organisations travelling from across Northern Ireland for the three days.



Young people from various youth clubs taking part in YouthFest 21 Activities

Membership Services 2021–2022

Boys & Girls Clubs offer a range of important support services to support member youth organisations:

- Safeguarding Children & Young People –quality assured child protection training through the Keeping Safe Initiative.
- Thinkuknow –Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP). Online safety training
- AccessNI vetting checks for paid and voluntary staff working with young people
- Risk management Insurance services –insurance products for legal compliance
- Website & social media channels providing member information services
- Governance, Supervision & Appraisal and Fund-raising Training

Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Safeguarding Training

After reopening, clubs have actively been ensuring that all staff and volunteers are up to date with current safeguarding compliance.

Boys & Girls Clubs is a registered 'Umbrella Body' with AccessNI and supports member clubs in the processing of criminal record checks for new staff and volunteers. In the latter part of this year, 29 clubs were assisted in the processing of 209 applications.

Safeguarding training was delivered both online and in person to our member clubs for all new and existing personnel.

Staff from 14 member clubs participated in training throughout the year – Crossgar Youth Club, Orgas Youth Club, Cabin Club, Carrickfergus Community Forum, Corpus Christi Youth Centre, Lagan Valley Youth & Community Centre, Dungannon Youth Resource Centre. A total of 23 first year students on the Community Youth Work Course from Ulster University completed their mandatory safeguarding training before going out on placement in Keeping Children Safe.

The 'Thinkuknow' is the education programme from the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) aimed at protecting young people online. Training is based around three key themes: How To Have Fun, How To Stay In Control (or, How To Take Control) and, How To Report a Problem.

Risk Management Insurance

We work closely with Berns Brett, who have developed a comprehensive and robust specific product with a leading charity insurer that allows them to tailor the precise cover to meet the needs of our member organisations. During 2021-2022 we had 32 clubs who availed of this service.

Website and Social Media Channels.

Our e-magazine, Youth News goes out every two weeks and on average it is sent to 677 recipients. It provides information about the work that is currently going on at Boys & Girls Clubs and shares information about the youth sector in general, whether that be funding opportunities or job vacancies. Our Facebook & Twitter pages are also active and keeps our 'friends' informed about daily activities.



Youth leaders sharing and discussing safeguarding information during training in Coalisland.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT : 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

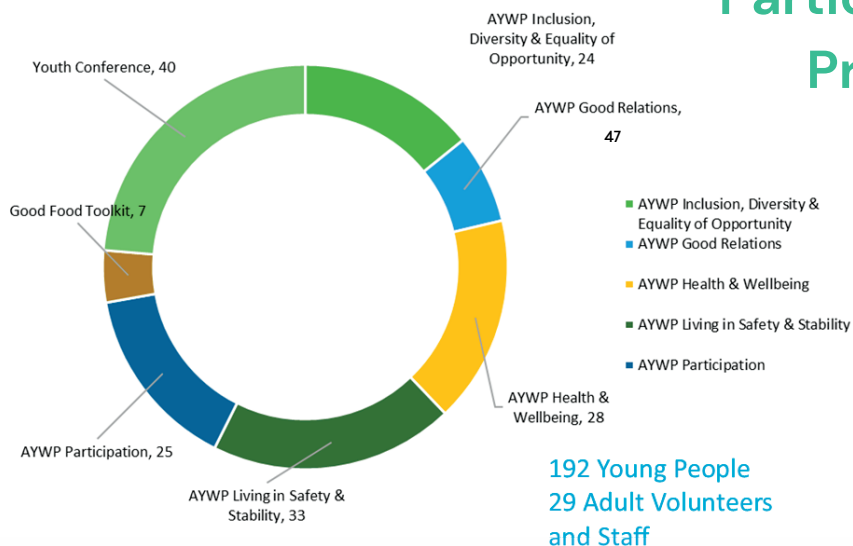
Boys & Girls Clubs (NI)		
	2022	2021
Total Income	£349,355	£282,119
Total Expenditure	£330,646	£245,770
Balance	£18,709	£36,349
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	£73,195	£54,486

Annual Impact Report

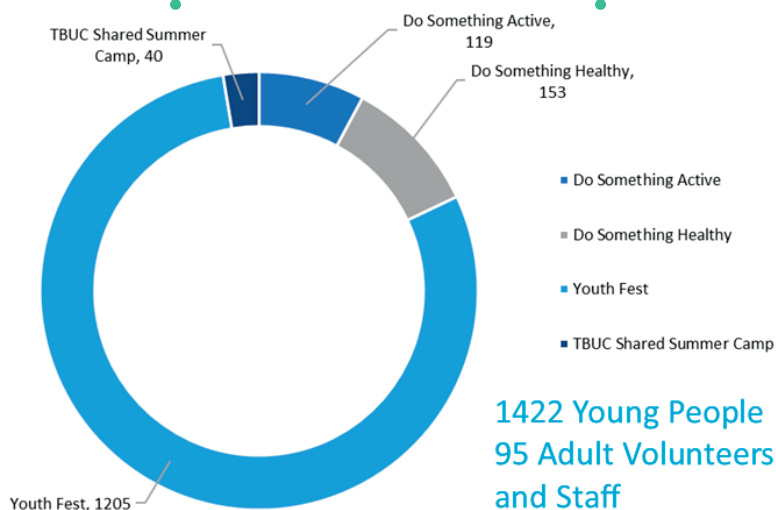
April 2021–March 2022



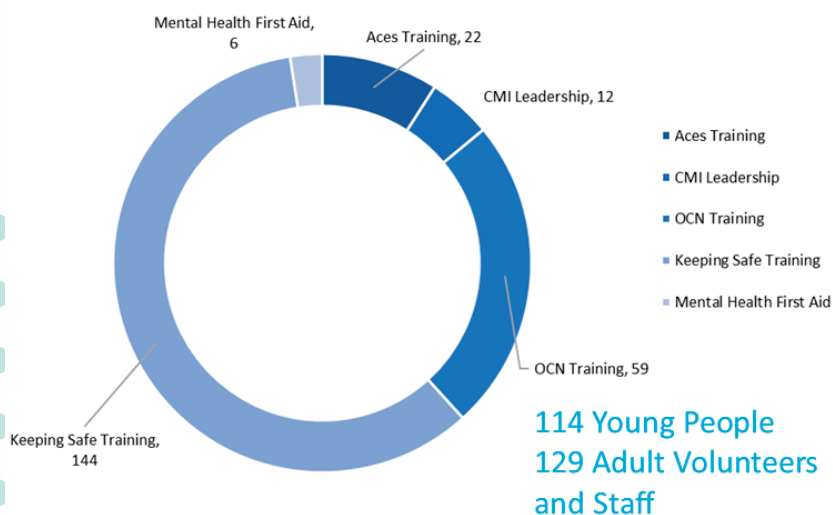
Participation – Programme



Participation – Projects



Participation – Training



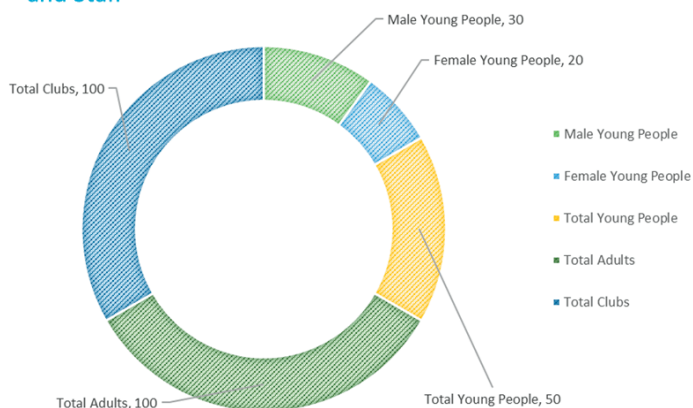
Annual Impact Report

April 2021–March 2022



Participation – Drugs & Alcohol

50 Young People
100 Adult Volunteers
and Staff



Activity	Date	Young People				Adults	Total Attendees
		No of Clubs	Females	Males	Total		
Access NI	Apr-March	72	-	-	-	209	209
Club Insurance	Apr-March	32	-	-	-	-	-
Aces Training	Apr-March	3	5	11	16	6	22
CMI Leadership	Apr-March	7	-	-	-	12	12
AYWP – EDI	July - Sept	1	14	6	20	4	24
AYWP – Good Relations	Oct-Dec	4	21	19	40	7	47
AYWP – Health & Wellbeing	July-Sept	2	11	14	25	3	28
AYWP – Living in Safety & Stability	Jan-March	2	20	11	31	2	33
AYWP – Participation	Jan-March	2	9	14	23	2	25
Do Something Active	Oct – Dec	18	103	-	103	16	119
Do Something Healthy	Sept - Mar	7	78	60	138	15	153
Good Food Toolkit	March	1	6	-	6	1	7
OCN	Oct-March	5	28	25	53	6	59
Youth Conference	March	5	35	1	36	4	40
Youth Fest	August	21	555	586	1141	64	1205
Keeping Safe Training	Apr-March	13	17	28	45	99	144
Mental Health First Aid	March	3	-	-	-	6	6
Drugs & Alcohol	15 months	100	30	20	50	100	150
TBUC – Camp Shared Summer	Sept - Feb	4	21	19	40	7	47
TOTAL		304	948	790	1738	555	2293