



In the Loop: Number 9

The World of Young People

Welcome to the YWU's fortnightly bulletin aiming to keep the sector up to date with the very latest developments. **Published every fortnight since July 2012**

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5th May 2020

Please share *In the Loop* with your colleagues and partner organisations

Youth Work Unit News and Events

Our next **Youth Impact Network meeting** has been scheduled for **Wednesday 6th May from 2.00pm to 3.00pm**. An opportunity to catch up with colleagues and share experiences and good practice in a time of shutdown. You can [Book a place here](#) you will then be sent a log-in code to participate.

The Youth Work Unit Yorkshire and the Humber serves on the **Covid-19 Youth Work Response Group** with the NYA, the Mix and other national Youth Sector organisations. The group maintains the **One Point of Contact** site for Youth Work and Youth Workers: [Youth Work Support](#) If there are things you would like to see on the site, or you see things which could be improved, contact us: theunit@youthworkunit.com

As part of our response to the crisis, the YWU hosts a series of on-going thematic online network meetings for youth work practitioners and managers in our region. Networks include: Youth Voice Workers; those working with LGBT+ young people; Youth Work Leads; the Voluntary Youth Organisations Network; the Youth Impact Network and the Young People's Youth Voice Steering Group. **If you would like to join in any of the online meetings, let us know:** theunit@youthworkunit.com

Yorkshire & Humber News

Underage vaping spikes in the north of England. More than a fifth of 15-year-olds in Yorkshire and the Humber vape, according to NHS figures that suggest a stark north-south divide in underage vaping: [Teenagers in Yorkshire were more than three times as likely to vape regularly as those in London](#)

Yorkshire & Humber Youth Voice

Young people: how European do you feel? As Europe tries to rebuild once more after a shock, the *Guardian* would like to hear from young people from all over Europe. 75 years after VE day, as Europe tries to recover and rebuild once more, they would like to hear from younger people from all over the continent: [Let them know what you think](#)

Hull's young people asked to join coronavirus mental health blog. A blog written by young people in Hull is helping others to cope during isolation, and now they are asking all young people in the city to share their stories and feelings, to help each other: [Helping others to cope during isolation](#)

National News

Playwriting can give vulnerable young people confidence and a sense of control. “This process taught me that what I feel counts,” one student told me. “Seeing it up on the stage, and the mentor believing in me – what I write means something.”

[Narrative education, with an emphasis on story, is often overlooked by schools](#)

Three in five organisations have stopped recruiting apprentices due to Covid-19, survey finds.

Experts warn of high unemployment among young people and future skills shortages if apprenticeship providers are not offered more support:

[A third had a less than one in five chance of completing their programmes in the expected timescales](#)

Virus special

Drillosophy: why UK rappers are teaching Plato in lockdown. A pair of London youth workers have created a new video series that aims to enliven philosophical concepts with the energy of drill music:

[“I’d been using Plato’s cave among lots of different thought experiments in youth work for a few years”](#)

Don’t socially distance young people. A post-lockdown social-distancing regime could do serious harm to children and teenagers. Forming friendships and starting relationships will be far more challenging if private, face-to-face conversations are made near impossible:

[Jostling with others at a gig or football match will remain memories for now](#)

Can social media help young people to cope with lockdown? Researchers from The University of Manchester are surveying young people about their mental health during the current crisis, in a bid to find out whether using social media helps them to minimise the negative effects of isolation:

[This could potentially have a significant impact on their mental health](#)

‘Meeting my youth worker is the only time I eat a meal with another person’. The coronavirus has left an estimated two million more young people in need of help. Where do they go when youth clubs are shut?

[Local authority youth workers have mostly been redeployed](#)

Zoomers might be the best name for our generation: “Eighty years from now, our grandchildren can yell, ‘Hey Zoomers,’” says one young woman. For today’s young people, two defining events: COVID-19 and climate change: an unforeseen pairing of catastrophes will inform what sort of future they create:

[Many will graduate into a recession, having grown up in the long shadow of another recession](#)

Reports and Studies

Out of Sight? Vulnerable Young People: COVID-19 Response April 2020. This report highlights the scale and prevalence of young people’s needs that are amplified by the pandemic. It draws on the latest data and vulnerability framework by the Office of the Children’s Commissioner for England, with valuable insights from partners and young people from across the youth sector: [Read the full report](#)

Young people experiencing increased levels of abuse during lockdown, research suggests. More than half of young people using a mental health app have reported increased levels of abuse at home during lockdown, research shows: [“A 51 per cent increase in young people experiencing abuse at home”](#)

Young people twice as likely to work in sectors shut down as a result of coronavirus, report finds. Businesses encouraged to consider future recruitment as study identifies six million workers at higher risk of job insecurity: [Between 25 and 55 per cent of 16-24 year olds work in these sectors](#)

New research reveals the concerns of young people during Covid-19 pandemic. Following the closure of schools, colleges and universities, new research suggests almost nine out of ten (88%) young people in Edinburgh are concerned about exams and coursework while almost all (98%) worry about the impact of coronavirus on their future: [64% don’t know where to access information on financial support](#)

Webinars, Training and Opportunities

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Resources

Do you live with, engage with or support young people aged 11-21 who are in care or who have recently left care? To compliment our Care Leaver Covenant, *Go Higher West Yorkshire* has developed new resources to help you support care experienced young people to make informed choices about their educational future: [Sign up now to receive your pack by email](#)

Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. Explore one of the six Thinkuknow websites for advice about staying safe when you're on a phone, tablet or computer: [Online Safety At Home](#)

Facebook, Livity and The Prince's Trust unite to put young people in charge of new digital campaign. Following research with young people directly affected by youth violence, a cohort of six talented up-and-coming creatives were hired to form a Residency within Livity: [This project has demonstrated the importance of believing in the talent and creativity of young people](#)

Woodcraft Folk were quick to offer remote and virtual programme within two days of lockdown. Since then they have spent some time consulting young people and developing their ongoing offer to children, young people and families. They are now very excited to be launching #DreamBigAtHome [Visit the site](#)

Blogs and Comment

Ruth Marvel: 'Charities aren't well served by simplistic characterisations of what we are'. Ruth talks to Harriet Whitehead about her strategy for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and her hopes for the future of the sector. ["Government does not really appreciate how much the charity sector provides"](#)

Measures being taken to control the spread of covid-19 are causing a "secondary pandemic" of child neglect and abuse. As one senior paediatrician summed it up: "Children are perversely suffering for the benefit of adults." The need to reduce the clinical effect on adults is urgent: [However, in a very British fashion, the secondary harm being done is not being properly considered](#)

Why do young people take more risks against social distancing? "Young people partying in hotel rooms, on beaches or at home; gathering in large groups without keeping two metres apart. We have all read these stories and seen images on the news and social media while we are trying to adjust to the 'new normal' of social distancing: ["Their risk-taking behaviour is far more likely to take place in groups"](#)

The lockdown ballad for homeless young people. Rosie O'Sullivan and Yoshika Colwell on why they have written a song to raise money for young people with nowhere to live during the pandemic: [They are fighting for their voices to be heard](#)

Health

NHS 'still there' for young people with mental illness. Mental health services for children and teenagers are getting fewer referrals. CAMHS is worried that the drop-off in people being seen by support services might mean young people who are suffering are not getting the help they need: [CAMHS says it isn't clear why referrals to services have dropped](#)

Innovative Arthritis Tracker app launches to support thousands of young people in self-isolation. The app is aimed at people between the age of 13 to 25 and enables individuals to rate and record their symptoms in seconds, as well as track their pain, medication side effects, fatigue, physical activity, sleep and emotional well-being: ["Stress makes everything worse for me, and the lockdown has been hard"](#)

Vacancies

The very latest Youth Work related vacancies in Yorkshire and the Humber: [Jobs in our region](#)

Consultation

Call for evidence. Impact of Covid-19 on DCMS sectors. The Committee invites written evidence on the impact of Covid-19 on any sectors under the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's remit: [Evidence is requested by Friday 19 June](#)

Can social media help young people to cope with lockdown? Researchers from The University of Manchester are surveying young people about their mental health during the current crisis, in a bid to find out whether using social media helps them to minimise the negative effects of isolation:

[Respond to the researchers](#)

European Exchange and Partnership Opportunities – Eurodesk

Eurodesk Opportunity finder. Find your next opportunity to travel abroad. Don't miss out. Look at the range of current opportunities for young people and for youth workers:

[Learning, volunteering, travelling and working](#)

Training Opportunity: Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange Training for Youth Organisations E-learning
1 June - 11 July 2020 | Online / Virtual, Belgium – FR. This training programme provides an introduction to Transnational Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange Projects through a learning-by-doing approach:

[Target Audience: Youth workers and non formal educators](#)

Funding

Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) have launched a Coronavirus Emergency Fund, open to organisations with a charitable purpose and charitable activities, which had income of £1million or less in their last financial year: [Coronavirus Emergency Fund](#)

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