
Overview

This standard is for youth workers who work alongside young people, enabling them to identify needs, make plans and take action towards achieving their aims.

It includes supporting young people to reflect upon and learn from their own and others actions, and encourages their resilience by identifying and addressing issues and problems encountered as well as by celebrating achievement and success.

The importance of participation and the active involvement of young people is one of the values which youth workers are expected to know about and apply when working with young people to identify needs and make plans.

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Support young people to identify and achieve aims

Performance Criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 work with young people to identify and agree their personal aims for achievement
- P2 identify with young people a range of actions for achieving their aims, assessing objectively their feasibility with the young person
- P3 assist young people to identify the benefits and risks associated with potential actions, and to balance the risks against the benefits for self and others
- P4 encourage young people to explore their aims and possible actions towards achieving these with relevant parties, including their parents/carers
- P5 review with young people any concerns or constraints that they identify as a potential barrier towards realising their aims
- P6 assist young people to explore and address problems objectively and constructively
- P7 agree with young people their preferred route to achieve their aims and assist them to develop an action plan towards realising their aims
- P8 ensure that young people's needs, feelings and responses to agreed actions are considered
- P9 encourage and assist young people to identify opportunities to develop the skills to implement their plan and realise their aims
- P10 ensure that their agreed actions fulfil legal, regulatory and ethical considerations
- P11 provide ongoing information and support to young people towards realising their aims, in line with agreed role and responsibilities
- P12 create opportunities for young people to reflect upon and learn from their experiences, exploring with them how they can apply such learning to progress their aims
- P13 encourage the young person to explore and develop methods to manage their own behaviour
- P14 seek appropriate support where there are difficulties in addressing the young person's behaviour and in negotiating realistic aims and boundaries with the young person
- P15 recognise young people's achievements, and support and assist them in dealing with any perceived setbacks
- P16 encourage the resilience of young people by celebrating achievements, including addressing problems

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 legal, regulatory and ethical requirements relating to youth work, and their impact within own area of responsibility
- K2 the values and principles which underpin youth work
- K3 the importance of young people setting and owning goals for their achievement
- K4 factors which determine appropriate goals and boundaries for young people
- K5 factors to be taken into account when assessing the feasibility of aims and action plans, and how to undertake objective assessments
- K6 the parties with which the young person should consult regarding their aims and plans
- K7 the importance of evaluating the options being considered and how to undertake a risk/benefit analysis of action plans
- K8 sources of information and advice available to young people which can assist their evaluation of options
- K9 effective problem solving techniques
- K10 sources of learning and development which can be used by young people in developing the skills appropriate to implementing their plans
- K11 methods of monitoring and evaluating the progress of action plans in realising the aims of young people
- K12 the importance of reflecting on and learning from experiences and how to create opportunities for young people to do this
- K13 the importance of creating an environment where young people consider it safe to talk openly and honestly about their aims and experiences, and how to do this
- K14 why it is important for young people to reflect on their behaviour and recognise the impact this can have on their relationships
- K15 methods for dealing constructively with setbacks experienced by young people
- K16 available forms for support for individuals and self and how to access them
- K17 the importance of recognising and celebrating achievements in motivating and encouraging resilience in young people, and methods for doing this effectively
- K18 the values and principles underpinning youth work

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Additional Information

Values

Working with representatives of the sectors within youth work, LSIS has agreed a suite of values and principles which distinguish youth work from other, sometimes related, activities involving young people. These values and principles are at the core of the work undertaken within youth work and underpin this standard. The behaviours required within this standard include those which reflect particular values and principles.

Behaviours

1. Treat young people with respect
2. Anticipate likely future scenarios based upon a realistic analysis of current circumstances
3. Acknowledge the input and insights of young people
4. Seek to understand the needs and motivations of young people
5. Use appropriate forms and styles of communication, suited to the needs and abilities of young people

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