

- The programme dates for the two day introduction to social pedagogy course are available through this coming year. For more info email Jack-je.mee@derbyshire.gov.uk or cathy.barrass@derbyshire.gov.uk

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FAIRVIEW CHARITY CARWASH

Community can be a foreboding for many children in care. Given the hard life has them thinking about others and contributing to the wider community might understandably be the last thing on their minds.

However, community is what makes life work for all of us.

So it is great to see examples of younger people focusing on other and looking for ways to contribute. A great example of how well this can be achieved is shown by Ryan and Jordan from Fairview Children's home.

Ryan had the initial idea given an interest in the support for children at the Ashgate hospice.



**...community is what makes life
work for all of us.**

He asked staff if he could organise a charity event to raise money for the Hospice.

Ryan designed the poster to advertise a car wash for the charity. Jordan was keen to help and offered his services to support the idea.

Staff gave them both lots of praise and a little support help-

ing them promote it to other Derbyshire workers

Taking over the driveway of the home for the day they started in typical English rain. Despite the less than perfect weather they stuck with it all day and as the weather brightened they washed all the staff cars and caught some people on



Activities and
group work

Benefits of a Relational Universe

As a companion to the Fairview piece I have flagged here an article which discusses the need for and the power of relationships for children...and us adults too. <http://www.thempra.org.uk/news/cultivating-a-relational-universe/>

"The importance of positive relationships for children in care and leaving care is becoming clear; however, the 'how, who and when' is often driven by real and perceived barriers, resources and professional roles. Many children in care

have fragmented relationships in communities and once they leave care will often attempt to return to them, even if this exploration is painful when relationships are not as ideal as expected. To identify these relationships early on is crucial to nurturing them and establishing a supportive emotional and social network during their time in care and also for their move to in(ter)dependence."

Building links with children we care for and the community will help them to un-

derstand what community is. They may not find all of these things interesting or helpful but they will not be ignorant of them and then as life shifts and changes they will be more confident in knowing how the community can help them and as they mature how they can help the community.

This is part of what make social pedagogy, "social". If others have great examples of how link to the community have benefited children we support do get in touch.

Continued...FAIRVIEW CHARITY CARWASH

their way to the local supermarket. A range of other DCC staff from the local multi agency team also benefited from the service.

Social pedagogy is essentially concerned with well-being, learning and growth but it is also underpinned by the idea that each

person has inherent potential, is valuable, resourceful and can make a meaningful contribution to their wider community. It would seem Ryan and Jordan instinctively showed these qualities and the home was able to assist their interest.

The boys managed to raise an amazing £101.92p!! Well done.

The staff saw the learning potential of this for the lads. Planning, and promoting, linking with people to provide the service and also building a bit of character to stick it out in the rain.

The boys managed to raise an amazing £101.92p!! Well done.



University course celebrated



Celebration evening with family and friends which included a student band, drinks and canapés.

You may have seen, in the most recent Director's Bulletin, a short piece on the success of the University of Derby students in their level 4 course. This course was developed working in partnership with the University of Derby to deepen practitioners understanding of social pedagogy and further embed it into our practice.

A celebration evening was organised at the university and many of the 76 workers and foster carers who over the past two years have completed the level four course attended. Family and friends were also invited to see the presentation of the certificates and enjoy the evening's entertainment, which included a student band, drinks and canapés.

Our Head of Children in Care Provision, Mary Wilton represented the Council and spoke about how the enthusiasm of the

carers and workers for social pedagogy was impacting on practice.

Professor Kath Mitchell, Vice Chancellor and Dr Paula Crick, Dean of Health and Social Care presented certificates to each student.

Professor Kath Mitchell spoke highly of the partnership with the county council, highlighting how the collaboration had benefited our practitioners' learning while our practitioners had contributed to the growth of the university's academic knowledge.

Sarah Barley-McMullen Programme Lead and Senior Lecturer built a great relationship with the students and she spoke about how the real life and work experiences that our practitioners were able to bring into their assignments meant these were refreshingly interesting in comparison to many students written material.

Rob Eaglesfield was asked to speak as a successful student on the course. His passion for social pedagogy came through as he described how the course enabled his own deeper thinking and learning.



Foster carer, Rob Eaglesfield, receiving his certificate.

Although no further places are funded on this university course the 76 here join a similar number who passed the course two years ago and this work has reflected in many teams growing understanding of social pedagogy. In addition many, successful students are supporting others through working in the training pool for our internal social pedagogy training programme.

We continue to connect with the university to support their development of social pedagogy in their Youth and Communities Degree and as they explore the development of a Masters in Social Pedagogy for the future.

Social pedagogy development continues across Children Services, supported by many of those who have attended the university course. If you would like to know more please contact Simon Taylor.

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Students chatting before the presentations



"Working together to support and inspire children, young people and their families to be the best they can be; safe, health, happy, learning and working."

Stay in touch

If you have any comments about the gazette or would like to know more about the development of social pedagogy please feel free to get in touch. Also do make contact if you would like to highlight your own or colleagues work developing social pedagogy.

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Social pedagogy quote:

"People with great passions, people who accomplish great deeds, people who possess strong feelings, even people with great minds and a strong personality, rarely come out of good little boys and girls."

Lev S. Vygotsky

Disclaimer: we hope this provides useful and relevant information, but we cannot guarantee that all source documents referred to have been checked and verified. We cannot accept responsibility for actions or omissions taken after reading this bulletin. Nothing in this bulletin is intended as a substitute for expert, professional or legal advice.

These bulletins can be found at:

<http://bit.ly/29P1Aip>