



## **Introduction**

Bath YFC has been delivering schools work in the city for a number of years and has most recently focussed much time and resources into the work in secondary schools across the city.

This brief report is an attempt to assess the effectiveness of that provision. It asks what, if any, difference has Bath Youth for Christ made in lives of young people in the city's schools. It attempts to measure some of the impact of Bath YFC's presence in secondary schools.

## **Methodology**

The report is based upon information collected from young people and staff at various secondary schools in Bath. It draws on information provided by a 2010 evaluation of Bath YFC led activities. Evaluation was carried out with forty five young people and four staff involved in the administration of these activities.

Schools included in this study were ones in which Bath YFC has a regular presence, these include:

Beechen Cliff – Thrive sessions

Culverhay – One to One work and football sessions

Hayesfield Lower School – Art Academy and Christian union

Hayesfield upper school - Art Academy

Ralph Allen – Girls football sessions

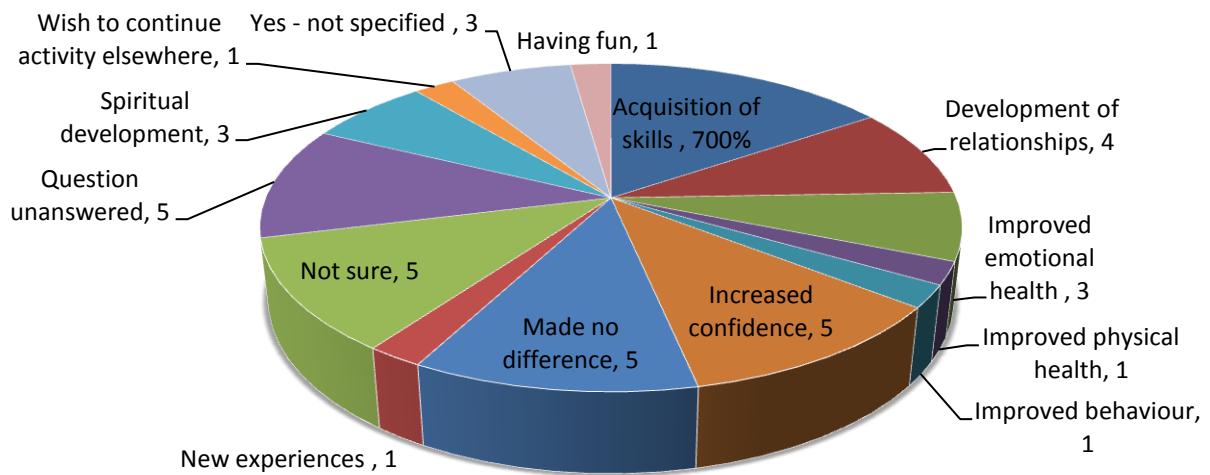
## **Results**

During the evaluation process young people were asked if their participation in a particular activity had benefitted them in any way.

Over all, the response from young people was very positive.

- 78% of young people reported that their involvement had benefitted them in some way
- 11% were unsure if it had or not
- 11% reported that their involvement had been of no benefit to them

Young people who reported benefitting from their participation went on to describe how it had been of benefit to them. Their responses were categorised into subsections and are represented in the chart below.



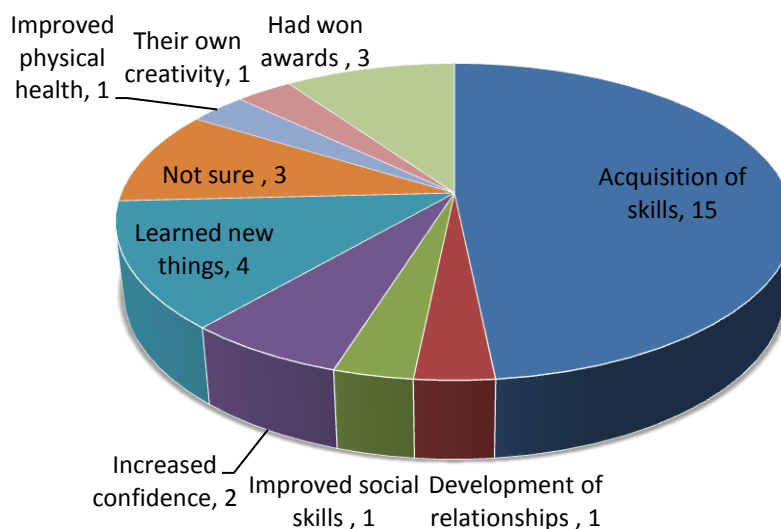
The evaluation went on to ask a series of questions attempting to measure the impact of participation on the development of peer relationships (one to one work not included).

- 86% of young people reported that they had made new friends through their participation in Bath YFC activity
- 14% reported that they had not made new friends, however some did comment that they had become closer to existing friends through their participation.

This would suggest that participation in Bath YFC activities aids the development of peer relationships for the majority of young people surveyed.

When asked if they were proud of what they had achieved during Bath YFC sessions, young people demonstrated high levels of perceived achievement. 31 out of 32 young people reported feeling proud of what they had achieved during Bath YFC sessions (one to one work and Christian union sessions have not been included in these findings).

Young people indicated in which area they felt they had achieved





School staff were asked to comment on how Bath YFC activities had benefitted pupils:

Bath YFC team have *“built positive relationships with our year seven students they have all been role models within the year group. This will result in students starting accompanying project with bath YFC team.”*

Richard Handley head of Year 7 Ralph Allen School

*Girl’s football sessions have “encouraged lots of positive qualities, developed skills, team building, self esteem and improved physical football skills. Different ability levels have been catered for and developed. The group works well together and the peer encouragement has been very powerful”*

Sally Luton extended service co-ordinator Ralph Allen School

*“Thrive has helped the pupils develop social skills. Learning skills have been enhanced – one year nine pupil has mentored the year seven pupils. All pupils increased their confidence, skill levels and self esteem”*

David Morrell deputy headmaster Beechen Cliff School

*“Young people enjoy their time meeting with the Bath YFC team, they look forward to it”*

Donna Wiles pupil support manager Culverhay School

### Conclusion

The data would suggest that the vast majority of young people engaging with a Bath YFC led activity in their school have benefitted from their participation. Young people and school staff have cited a wide variety of benefits and have drawn differing positive effects from their involvement. We could therefore assume that Bath YFC in schools is, in some way, meeting the varied needs of young people. However any future study would need to go much further in examining the validity of this assumption.