



SECONDARY

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The Youth Net
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Charity Number 110011



What is the Youth Net?

The Youth Net is a children and youth charity started in 2003. We are based in Stafford but work regionally and relationally, with a vision

To see children and young people flourishing socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually: positively engaging with the Christian Faith and communities.

We aim to encourage and support

- *children and young people to engage in activities, inside and outside of school, that enables them to flourish socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually.*
- *children and young people to positively engage with the Christian Faith*
- *schools to be supported and resourced by the Christian community in the delivery of RE and SMSC curriculums and in the social, emotional, physical and spiritual development of pupils*
- *churches and all those working with children and young people, to feel valued, supported, equipped and encouraged to work together for the benefit of children and young people.*

Our values are generosity, relationships, being open and honest, welcome, transformation and hope.



What is Engage?

Engage is our secondary schools project led by Maddy Belle.

We have 4 project areas in total

EXPLORE - our Primary project which also includes Question Mark drama group.

ENGAGE - Our Secondary Schools project

IF Project - Our Alternative Curriculum project

Connect - Our work with children and youth workers and local churches and organisations.

We are able to use our wide networks to access a range of speakers and opportunities to offer to schools. In the past we have been able to offer a theatre company, music groups, dancers, art installations etc



RE LESSONS/CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS



What is prayer?

- Relationship with God
- Communication with God
- Talking and listening – (How do you hear God?)
- Changes me
- Changes the world

The Engage project can input into KS3, KS4 and KS5 RE provision in schools. We are able to input into the beliefs and teachings of Christianity and the practices and practical outworking of Christianity.

We can do this through

- individual lessons
- a series of lessons
- Q and A sessions
- RE conferences on drop down days.

We are able to work closely with schools and can create sessions to fit your individual needs.

Contribution into RE lessons is offered at no cost however many schools ask if they can donate into the charity and we suggest £15 per lesson.

We have led conferences and lessons on the following: (just some examples...)

- **Easter**
- **Christmas**
- **Christian Festivals**
- **What is prayer? why do Christians pray?**
- **What is Worship? How do Christians Worship?**
- **Solomon or Sophia for the day** = Christianity in action - exploring some current global issues and how some of these issues affect communities in developing countries. There will be the opportunity to learn about a Christian response incorporating both Protestant and Catholic responses to these issues. Pupils will also have the opportunity to reflect on their own responses to these issues.
- **Is God Green?** - A christian response to Environmental issues
- **Creation**
- **What do Christians believe about God?**
- **Religion - Relevant? Credible? or of no interest?**
- **Forgiveness**
- **An Evil Day**
- **No God No Morals?**
- **Religion a source of peace or conflict?**

Please contact Maddy if you have RE lessons or opportunities you would like us to lead



Sacred Spaces are spaces set aside in a school environment that are designed to be places of peace.

Sacred Spaces are multi sensory environments.

They are challenging and thought provoking and an amazing way to explore contemporary faith and the world around us.

Sacred Spaces give pupils the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they affect peoples' lives

Sacred Space encourage pupils to reflect and learn from reflection

They promote teaching styles which:

- value pupils' questions and give them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns
- encourage pupils to relate their learning to a wider frame of reference – for example, asking 'why?', 'how?' and 'where?' as well as 'what?'

Sacred Spaces encourage a desire to explore their own and others' views

"We got to connect with our inner selves and be who we really are"



"I feel better about myself and don't mind what others think"



"The peacefulness and space giving freedom to think without distraction"

Charity number
1100111

Each Sacred Space can be created to

- explore a particular Christian theme ie Christmas, Easter, Forgiveness, Justice, Love,
- explore a set of values ie British values, School values
- explore an aspect of being human - ie identity, emotional well-being, mental health.

Costs - we generally ask that resources and mileage are covered along with a suggested small donation to our charity

ENGAGE
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For more information please contact

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DEBATING CLUBS

I believe that the pursuit of truth and right ideas through honest debate and rigorous argument is a noble undertaking.

Charles Krauthammer

We are really excited by our developing debating project. We currently work with local youth workers to facilitate 4 debate clubs in local high schools.

We offer youth workers from local churches to these lunchtime clubs and we also are developing a programme of inter school debates thanks to the generous support of local councillors Mark Winnington, Jonathan Price and Carolyn Trowbridge.



Why debate?

- Develops young peoples skills improving their employability.
- Develop skills that are transferable across life for example public speaking and research skills
- Helps young people stand in other peoples shoes and be open to other peoples perspective - develops empathy
- Develops resilience, raises self confidence and
- Opportunity to see the world through different perspective.
- promotes broader thinking and stimulates curiosity
- Supports RE curriculum – shows the value of understanding and respect of others views

Youth Net clubs usually try and take part in the SCVYS debating competition, Jeremy Lefroys debating competition in parliament and in the Youth Net Inter school league swell as any other opportunities we find throughout the year.

These clubs are facilitated at no cost to the school through the generosity of local church youth workers.

Please speak to Maddy if you would like to see a debate club set up in your school.

#IF project

The Youth Net has been delivering alternative curriculum opportunities in partnership with local schools for the last 5 years. We have been developing our skills in informal education; helping young people to develop the necessary life skills for living positively and making wise choices with the aim that these skills would help them to flourish as they become young adults.

#IF Project programmes can be used to enhance the lives of particular students in the form of an afterschool club or an enrichment programme during school time for typically 6-12 weeks. They are taught through informal education, active learning and fun!

These programmes aim for pupils to

- Engage in learning that is relevant to them and support the development of personal, life and social skills that are essential for living well, positive engagement at school, future study and employment.

By the end of the programme, our aim for this project is that participants will

- Be aware of their own personal development
- Have engaged in learning that has developed their personal, life and social skills.
- More positively engage at school, future study or employment.
- Have an increased sense of self-esteem and self efficacy.
- Demonstrate more positive attitudes and behaviours towards others and their local community resulting in improved relationships with teachers, police, family and/or peers.

#IF programmes we can deliver are:

- #LIFEHACKS - A lifeskills programme teaching life skills through fun activities
- #GROWTH - A self esteem programme aiming to raise self confidence
- #TEAM - A team work programme building team work skills
- #SPEAK - A programme developing public speaking and debating skills
- #COOK - A basic cookery programme
- #MONEY - A basic budgeting and money programme.

These programmes are typically for a group of upto 10 and there is a cost for these programmes.



ASSEMBLY'S

The Engage team are able to deliver Assembly's on any aspect of Christianity and also a good number of PSHEE subjects.

A few assembly examples

Christmas	Easter	Human Rights	Fair trade
Community	Identity	Values	New Year
Love	Relationships	Friendships	Forgiveness
British values	Making Decisions	Caring for others	Charity

Please speak to Maddy if you would like her to come and take an assembly in your school.

PSHEE and SMSC

Through our networks and the youth work skills in The Youth Net team particularly used within the IF project we are sometimes asked to contribute to PSHEE lessons and days.

Please speak to Maddy about your needs and she will be able to put together a proposal as to what we might be able to offer.

Team building days are a particular strength.

We can also facilitate circus skills workshops - Juggling, diabolo and plate spinning at a basic but very competent level. We have over the last 10 years run a number of lunch time clubs around circus skills.

Community Cohesion

We are often able to use our extensive networks to facilitate linking schools with local churches and their communities.

If you have a particular area that you would like to find links in with the local community then it is worth a quick conversation with Maddy to see what she can do within the networks we have.