

Children & Young People's Network March E-Bulletin

Children and Young People's Network



26th March 2020



Welcome!

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Welcome to March's edition of the CYPN newsletter.

I know you will all be exceptionally busy adapting your work and providing much needed support to those you work with, charities are needed now more than ever, but please take a few moments to ready our monthly update. I hope there will be a few nuggets you can take away with you.

The new social distancing measures and effective lockdown will have had a profound impact on both you personally and your work. Please do get in touch if there is anything I can help with on behalf of the CYPN. I am happy to signpost where possible or put you in touch with other CYPN members facing similar difficulties. It is important that we all support each other where we can at times like these and I am uplifted by hearing some of the amazing stories of what CYPN member groups are already doing. Thank you!

Keep safe and take care,

Gilly Samuddin

Children & Young People's Network Co-Ordinator
gilly@bathareaplayproject.co.uk

Please keep us up to date... Let us know if your contact details change!

Contact us at:

Children & Young People's Network

Odd Down Community Centre

Odins road, Bath, BA2 2TL

Telephone: 01225 832479

Email: gilly@bathareaplayproject.co.uk

For more information on the Network please see our pages on the website [here](#).



Network News from our members

[Mencap Supported Internships](#)

Being Piloted in Bath from September, Mencap are looking to recruit 8 students, with a learning disability aged between 16-24. These internships are different to Project Search as the work placements are personalised and you will undertake several for the first 3 months and then specialise. Please contact [Bethan Butcher](#), Lead employment coordinator for further details.

[Oasis Bath](#)

Oasis Bath run a monthly kinship carer's support group in partnership with B&NES council's family placement team. This is the only dedicated support group for kinship carers in B&NES, and it's been received really well by the carers that come.

[Bath Half Marathon: Virtual Bath Half](#)

Bath Half have been able to put arrangements in place for entrants who decided not to attend the race out of concern about the Coronavirus to still complete the 'Virtual Bath Half' and to receive their official finisher medal and T-shirt. They have launched a new registration platform allowing registered Bath Half entrants to sign up, with a month to complete the half marathon on a route of their own choosing, closing date 15th April 2020. After uploading verification of their run, finishers will receive an official digital finishers medal and certificate, and shortly afterwards we will post them their actual finishers medal and T-shirt.

[Mutual aid Covid -19](#): groups have been growing rapidly and in B&NES we have seen an amazing response to the crisis by volunteers supporting local community groups. [3SG](#) are coordinating a local group of charities, residents, students and businesses to come together to create a Compassionate Community so we can support each other during what could be a difficult time ahead.

Please take 2 moments to complete our annual CYPN evaluation survey please click [here](#). Your views are really important to us!

National News & information

Latest COVID-19 Updates for charities:

- COVID-19: [Latest guidance](#) from the charity commission for the charity sector (updated 25th March)
- Small charities Coalition: [Guidance for small charities](#)

Updated guidance from the **Charity Commission** is telling charities to dig into their reserves if the coronavirus crisis is affecting their ability to operate, but they should first identify any limits on the use of funds and assets. "The commission encourages you to also carefully consider the wider and longer-term impacts of making such a decision on your financial resilience and donor relationships," the guidance says. "You should seek professional advice on this if you can. The commission will be as helpful as possible and offer what guidance we can." The commission adds that HM Revenue & Customs grants to cover 80 per cent of the wages of companies' staff members temporarily without work due to Covid-19 will be available to charities, regardless of their size.

Write to your local MP: The [Directory of Social Change](#) and other sector infrastructure bodies have urged those working in the third sector to write to their MPs, calling on them to support "swift, substantial and simple financial help" from national government for charities. The DSC has provided a template letter, using the hashtag #EveryDayCounts, which says that without financial support "charities like ours in your constituency could go under at short notice in the coming days and weeks". The letter calls on MPs to urge the Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, to establish a £4.3bn emergency stabilisation fund and make the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme eligible for all charities. Find out more here.

[Big Society Capital plans emergency loan fund for charities](#) Social investor Big Society Capital is looking to set up an emergency loan fund for charities, and has asked the government for its support. The fund will pool resources from a range of social lenders and is expected to amount to £100m. The final figure will depend on how many lenders take part, and more details will be shared next week. While charities can, in principle, access the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme, which gives businesses access to finance for up to six years, in practice many of them will not be eligible for it. Only charities that receive half of their income from trading activities will be able to apply.

[Digital skills Support:](#) For Charities if you need digital skills support, here's a list of resources from within and beyond the Catalyst network. This has been launched this morning, and is a central coordination of resources across national funders and third sector support networks. You will find online virtual training, and the opportunity for 1:1 support calls.

Geofutures has published an [interactive map](#) of the UK showing the location of supermarkets and major food banks, as well as data on the number of free school meals provided school by school to help support charities and community planners that are having to develop strategies in response to Covid-19.. We also have a [blog post](#) where we hope to

Local & Regional News & information

[St John's Young stars awards](#): COVID-19 UPDATE: Unfortunately, due to government guidelines relating to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have had to make the decision to postpone the Young Stars Awards. We received so many incredible nominations, so rest assured we will be back to recognise our inspiring young stars! We will be back in touch with a new date for the Gala Dinner and Awards night asap.

School Nurse Service Virgin care school nurse services have set up a confidential telephone drop in service. Any young person that would like to speak to a qualified nurse can call 01225 831666 (Bath) or 01761 408111 (Norton/ Radstock) Monday - Friday 12-2pm. They also have a confidential chat health text service: 07480 635513. Please let any young people you are working with who may benefit from this service know.

3SG Compassionate communities: 3SG was just a one-person operation until 10 days go. Now, we've got six full-time volunteers and almost 2,000 connectors. 3SG is coordinating a local group of charities, residents, students and businesses to come together to create a [Compassionate Community](#) so we can support each other during what could be a difficult time ahead. People interested in volunteering their support to deal with the current COVID-19 situation facing Banes are encouraged to register via a Google Form we have set up [here](#) 3SG will be posting regular updates on its Facebook page and this website as the situation develops.

Sustainable food partnership

I have received lots of emails from network members over the last week regarding food distribution for vulnerable families. Whilst many schools and churches are doing what they can and groups are forming local hubs, 3SG have collated a list of local food providers delivering to people across B&NES which may be of interest.

Community Hub: As part of 3SG and the increased numbers of people from across the B&NES area wanting to help and be part of being a compassionate community 'a Hub' has been set up in conjunction with Virgin Care to try and co-ordinate a response to need. This has now gone live! Please share with anyone who might be vulnerable and/or isolated, so that they can call 0300 247 0050 and help will be provided.

Useful Websites:

For those facing **financial concerns** as a result of COVID 19: [Understanding Universal credit](#) and [Quartet](#)

Advice: [Easy Read Resources](#)

Young People's Mental Health: Corona Virus specific information: [Young Minds](#) and [ChildMind](#)

Anxiety: [Coping with Coronavirus anxiety \(all ages\)](#)

Business & Fundraising

In response to the COVID-19 emergency:

The [National Emergencies Trust launched an appeal](#) on 18 March to raise funds to help local charities in their work during the Covid-19 pandemic.: Charities will be able to apply for grant aid through their local community foundation, rather than directly to the NET, and grant aid and how to apply will be available from 23 March

[Neighbourly](#) community fund is offering a series of **micro-grants of up to £400**, to support good causes that are helping communities affected by the new coronavirus outbreak. Grants are unrestricted and can go towards food provision, emergency supplies, practical support, running costs, transport and other essentials.

Comic Relief – some of the money raised through Sport Relief 2020 will go to organisations on the frontline. Support for grantees through adapting activities, reviewing timeframes, or re-budgeting remaining funds.

[The Hilden Charitable Trust](#)

Provides grants of between £500 and £1,500 for UK voluntary and community groups with an annual income of less than £150,000 to provide summer play schemes that benefit disadvantaged children. Play schemes should be able to evidence the use of volunteers and last between 2 and 6 weeks over the school summer holiday period. The application deadline for Summer Play Scheme grants is Friday 29th May 2020.

[The Goldsmith's Company Charity](#)

Small grants up to £5,000 and Large Grants up to £30,000 for UK registered charities and UK charitable organisations, including faith-based charities. The Charity supports general charitable projects, ranging from supporting the disadvantaged in society and general welfare to the arts. One-off grants are normally awarded for specific projects, although requests for core funding will also be considered.

[The Chesterhill Charitable Trust Ltd](#)

A relatively new grant-making trust: Its objectives are: The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, of disadvantaged young people living in the UK or abroad; The advancement of education for persons under the age of 25 by developing their mental, physical and moral capabilities; The rehabilitation of young offenders and young people who are at risk of offending.

[Youth Accelerator Fund](#)

The Youth Accelerator Fund was announced last October and has been set up to address urgent needs in the youth sector and expand existing successful projects run by Sport England, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Arts Council England and British Film Institute. Youth clubs will receive a share of the fund, to deliver a range of positive activities for young people to develop skills and contribute to their local communities.

[Regulator says charities can request additional time for annual returns](#)

Charities that need an extension to their annual return deadline due to the coronavirus pandemic should contact the charity commission.