



Young Hackney

A guide





Opportunities for all and support for those who need it

Young Hackney's vision is that children, young people and families have high ambitions, leading to greater independence and resilience.

Our aspiration is for Hackney's children and young people to enjoy their childhood and be supported in their transition to independent and successful adulthood.

Introduction

Young Hackney services are for children and young people aged 6–19, or up to 25 years if a young person has a special education need or disability. We run universal services such as youth clubs and sports and citizenship activities, as well as offering help for children and young people who need additional support. Our ability to offer early help is a fundamental part of our approach as it means we can prevent problems from escalating to the point where statutory intervention (for example, social work) is required.

Young Hackney works across the borough in youth clubs, adventure playgrounds, community halls, voluntary and community sector provision and in schools. We are able to provide individual support within schools, community settings or at our youth hubs, but will often provide support within the family home.

We recognise the crucial role that peers and family members play in influencing what children and young people experience and achieve. Wherever possible, we work with families to help them develop the capacity to resolve their own problems.

Our staff come from a wide range of professional backgrounds, including youth workers, playworkers, social workers, teachers, health professionals, youth justice workers and family specialists. As part of Hackney Children and Families Service, we are also able to draw on a full range of specialist services as they are required.

It is the combination of universal services and early help that makes Young Hackney unique.

 Contact details are given at the end of this booklet however enquires can be made in person at any of our youth hubs and clubs, via the website www.younghackney.org/about/contact/ or by calling us on **020 8356 7404**.

Opportunities for all Young Hackney Universal Services

Young Hackney youth work programmes engage young people in a curriculum built from their lived experience, personal beliefs and aspirations. This process extends and deepens a young person's understanding of themselves, their community and the world in which they live. Our youth work programmes are fun, educational and inspiring; providing young people with opportunities to engage locally, nationally and internationally.





Friendly staff and fun activities

Young people can take part in a varied programme of activities at our four Young Hackney youth hubs and two adventure playgrounds.

Young Hackney staff offer structured activities for children and young people aged 6–19. Our programmes are designed to aid young people’s social and emotional development and help develop decision-making and critical-thinking skills. Young people can gain qualifications through the AQA qualifications scheme, through Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network (ASDAN) courses, National Governing Bodies (NGB) Sports Awards or the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award scheme. The majority of our programmes are free.

Adventure playgrounds cater for children and young people aged 6–15. They can enjoy adventurous and creative activities such as digging, making fires or building and demolishing dens. Playgrounds are open after school, all day Saturday during term-time and all day Monday to Friday during the school holidays. Entry is free.



You can read about the full range of activities and programmes available to young people, and access termly and holiday programmes from our website www.younghackney.org



Active citizenship and social action

Our participation programmes encourage young people to become positively and actively involved in the wider community, which raises their aspirations, encourages active citizenship & leadership and supports transition to adulthood.

Young people can take part in youth forums and international exchanges or stand for election to both the Hackney and UK Youth Parliaments. They are also encouraged to become active participants in service design, delivery and review through peer research, peer education, youth-led inspections, staff recruitment panels and by managing grant awards through the Hackney Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Opportunity Enterprise Fund.

Work-related learning

Work-related learning broadens young people's perception of the options open to them after they leave school or college. Young Hackney provides workshops, events and individual support; enabling young people to explore potential routes to employment and develop additional skills that will help them in the job market. Many programmes link to accreditation, leadership or volunteering opportunities, helping young people develop a greater sense of purpose, belonging and self-worth.

Sports and coaching opportunities

The Young Hackney Youth and School Sports Unit was created to embed the legacy of the 2012 Olympics, widening children and young people's participation in sports. Members of staff work closely with primary schools and other providers to help build the interest and infrastructure required, providing enhanced out-of-school-hours sports activities, the 'Personal Bests' school sports programme, and access to training and competitions.

The Youth and School Sports Unit works with primary schools to develop:

- high-quality physical education as part of the curriculum
- competitive school sport opportunities for those young people who want to take part
- activities that encourage the least active students to exercise.

The team also provides training, support and opportunities for young people through work experience, leadership and officiating. This can be a stepping-stone to further coaching, volunteering or leadership opportunities through links with sports clubs, leisure facilities and community providers.

Volunteering with Young Hackney

Young Hackney is able to widen the range of activities we offer to young people through our volunteer programme, utilising skills and experience from within the community. Volunteers assist with Young Hackney universal provision and, in particular, help staff so that young people with special educational needs or a disability can take part in activities.

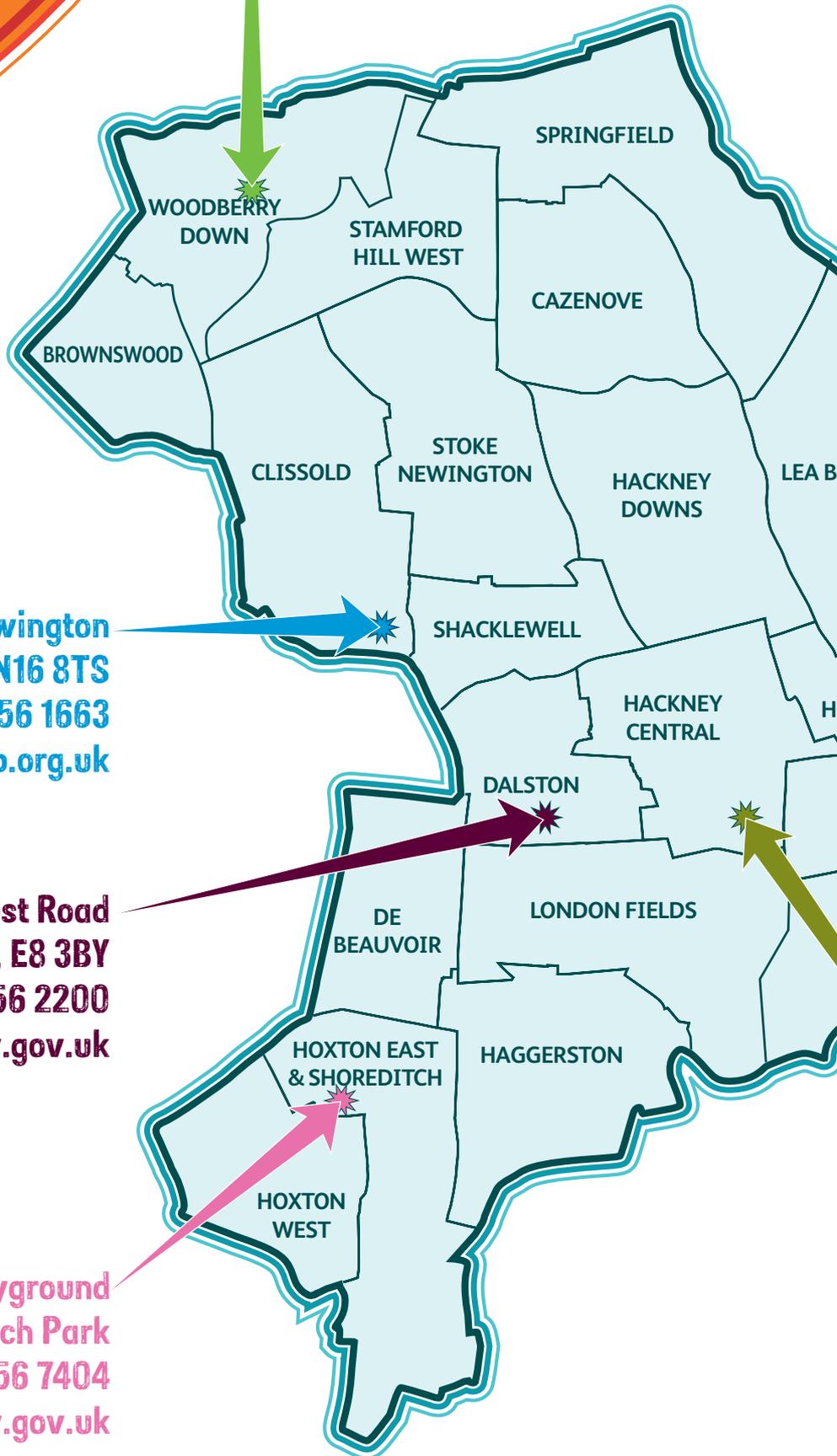


All volunteers are required to undergo a DBS check and undertake a short induction.

If you are interested in volunteering for Young Hackney, then contact the Volunteer Co-ordinator through **020 8356 7404**.

Young Hackney Hubs & Playgrounds

Young Hackney The Edge
7 Woodberry Grove, N4 1SN
020 8356 1063
info@hackney.gov.uk



Young Hackney Stoke Newington
Chaucer Court, N16 8TS
020 8356 1663
jobrodie-mends@hmp.org.uk

Young Hackney Forest Road
29 Forest Road, E8 3BY
020 8356 2200
info@hackney.gov.uk

Shoreditch Adventure Playground
Shoreditch Park
020 8356 7404
info@hackney.gov.uk



www.younghackney.org

Key Contacts

Early Help and Prevention:

info@hackney.gov.uk

020 8356 7404

All enquires relating to substance misuse should be addressed to the Substance Misuse Team:

yhsmt@hackney.gov.uk

020 8356 7377

All enquiries relating to school sport should be addressed to the Young Hackney Sports Unit:

yhsportsunit@hackney.gov.uk

020 8356 7404

To contact the Health and Wellbeing team, email:

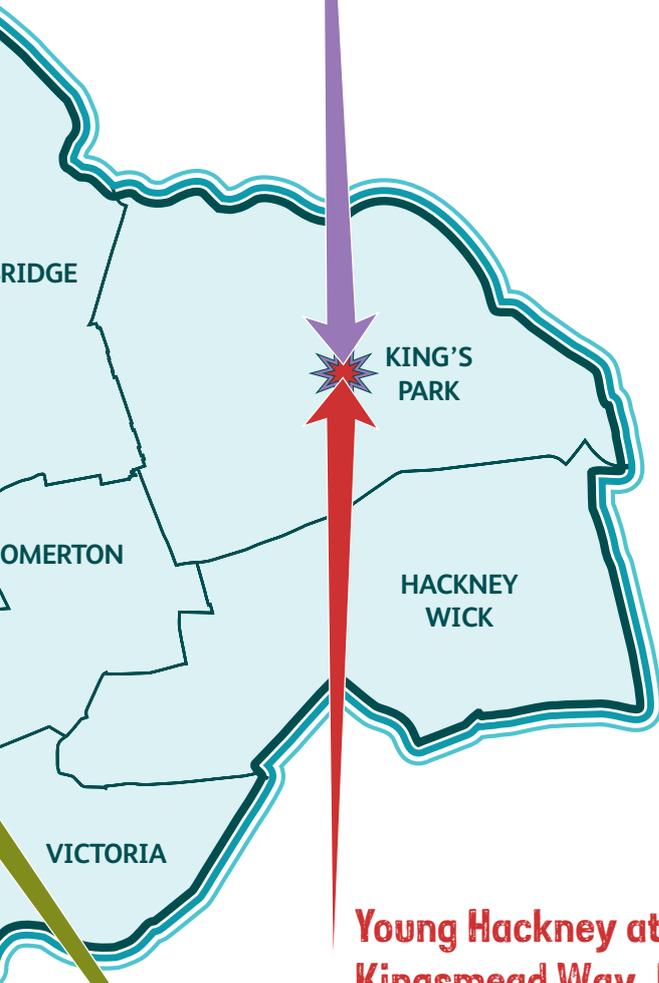
hwbteam@hackney.gov.uk

If you have a question related to learning, progression and participation please contact:

peter.algacs@hackney.gov.uk

020 8356 2849

**Hackney Marsh
Adventure Playground
Kingsmead Way, E9 5PP
020 8356 7404
info@hackney.gov.uk**



**Young Hackney at Concorde
Kingsmead Way, E9 5PP
020 8510 0979
jobrodie-mends@hmp.org.uk**

**Hackney Service Centre
1 Hillman Street, E8 1DY**



Support for those who need it Young Hackney Early Help and Prevention Services

Young Hackney aims to have a positive impact on young people's development and transition to adulthood by intervening to address adolescent risk, develop pro-social behaviours and build resilience. We believe early help is critical and can prevent escalation to the point where statutory interventions may be required. Our staff teams work collaboratively with other agencies to help families develop the capacity to resolve their own problems.

Young Hackney places an emphasis on engaging vulnerable young people, including:

- those displaying persistent disruptive behaviour
- those at risk of disengaging from learning or who are at risk of exclusion from school
- young people not in education, training or employment (NEET)
- young people who offend, are at risk of offending or who are victims or perpetrators of violence
- those who display harmful sexual behaviour or who are at risk of sexual exploitation
- those whose physical or emotional health and well-being is at risk
- those missing from home or education
- looked-after children and care leavers
- young people with additional needs
- young carers
- culturally-specific groups.

All Young Hackney staff share a common belief that each child or young person is a complex social being with rich and extraordinary potential.

Our approach to early help is based on a systemic understanding of the key relationships in a child or young person's life and, in particular, the critical influence of peers and family members. We offer outcome-focused, time-limited interventions through universal plus and targeted services designed to reduce or prevent problems from escalating or becoming entrenched. We encourage children and young people to engage with universal opportunities through our network of youth hubs and commissioned projects. This allows them to join a range of positive peer groups, and allows Young Hackney workers to monitor progress and sustain support.

Staff build positive relationships with young people based on the principles of voluntary engagement and mutual respect, dedicating their time and expertise to help young people to be resilient. Members of staff consistently encourage and challenge young people to excel and to have high expectations of themselves and the part they can play in their communities.



Work within schools

The majority of secondary schools in Hackney have an allocated Young Hackney Team, who will work with school staff to identify students who require additional support to participate and achieve. If schools identify students who would benefit from individual support, generally they will work with Young Hackney staff to create an appropriate intervention within the school and/or community.

If there is no Young Hackney team working in the school, schools can contact the service via the First Access and Screening Team (FAST) team (see 'Getting help from Young Hackney' on page 14).

Health and Wellbeing

The Health & Wellbeing Team deliver comprehensive, free-of-charge Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) and Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE). The team is available to deliver in all primary and secondary schools in the borough, further education colleges, youth clubs, and alternative education providers and through outreach at events on request. They are also available to work with partners across the public and voluntary/community sector and can adapt sessions to meet the needs of communities and groups, or address particular issues faced by children or young people.

Sessions are designed to suit all learning styles and abilities and involve a mix of presentations, films, discussions and group work. Topics covered include sexual health and relationships, healthy eating, body image, smoking prevention, dental hygiene, cyberbullying, mental wellbeing and more.



For further information on the offer please contact the team at:
hwbteam@hackney.gov.uk

Prevention and diversion

Education, reparation and restorative justice are important components of all Young Hackney delivery, and support the prevention and diversion of youth crime. Our work with young people who have come into contact with the youth justice system is designed to help them understand the consequences of their actions and develop their moral reasoning and resilience so they will refrain from criminal or anti-social behaviour. Our approach includes payback to the community or to the individual victims of crime.

Substance Misuse Service

The Substance Misuse service offers non-judgemental and confidential support to children and young people aged 6–25 years. It undertakes preventative and educational work around drug and alcohol misuse, working with children and young people as well as professionals. The service also works alongside the Youth Justice Team to undertake dealing interventions with young people and provides support and interventions to young adults who have engaged in or are at risk of developing problems associated with drugs or alcohol use.

Interventions take a tailored and holistic approach, which builds young people's resilience and addresses issues of family and relationships; finances; education and housing; while liaising with other services and partners as necessary.

The service uses motivational interviewing techniques designed to equip people to make their own decisions, with the ethos that lessons best learnt are self-taught.



The Substance Misuse advice and referral line is open from 9am to 9pm, Monday to Friday on **020 8356 7377**.

Alternatively, you can email the team at: **yhsms@hackney.gov.uk**

Children and young people can use the line to make a self-referral or simply to talk through any concerns or questions they may have.

Getting help from Young Hackney

Universal Services

If you would like to contact Young Hackney about our youth work, participation or sports activities, please contact the appropriate member of staff listed on page 9.

Early Help

Hackney's First Access & Screening Team (FAST) acts as a single point of contact for professionals and members of the public seeking additional support or a safeguarding response to children and young people in need or at risk. Co-located professionals from Children's Social Care, Health, Probation, the Police and others work together as a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub to assess referrals and ensure children and young people in need of early help are put in touch with Young Hackney.

 Members of the public or professionals can telephone FAST on **020 8356 4844** any time Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm for advice, guidance or to make a referral. After 5pm and at weekends, the Out of Hours social work service can be contacted on **020 8356 2710**.

Email: Members of the public or professionals can email FAST on **fast@hackney.gov.uk** or secure email on **fast@hackney.gov.uk.cjism.net**

Where a FAST assessment identifies support needs that cannot be met by a single agency or service there needs to be a co-ordinated response, with local agencies working together to support the young person and their family. In Hackney, this is managed via a multi-agency Children and Young People's Partnership Panel.

Meetings take place weekly, designating and monitoring co-ordinated packages of support for children and young people aged 6–19.

The majority of secondary schools in Hackney have an allocated Young Hackney team who work with them to identify students with poor attendance or who require additional support to participate and achieve. Typically, Young Hackney staff will work with the student, their peers and their family on developing their social and emotional capabilities; providing support, challenge and strategies for change.

 If you would like more information about the support Young Hackney can offer, call us on: **020 8356 7404** between 9am and 5pm, visit our website **www.younghackney.org/about/contact/** or drop in and see us at one of our youth clubs or youth hubs.





 www.younghackney.org