



Professional Development Award in Youth Work

SCQF Level 6 - Renfrewshire 2023





INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS (Renfrewshire 2023)

Venue: Renfrewshire Council Youth Services
Foxbar Youth Centre,
Findhorn Avenue, Paisley, Renfrewshire, PA2 0NW

INTRODUCTION

The PDA in Youth Work has been designed for those working with young people in a Community Learning and Development context. It is suitable for people who have experience of youth work in a paid or volunteering capacity but who might not have formal qualifications in youth work.

The PDA in Youth Work offers a nationally recognised, SQA accredited qualification at SCQF Level 6.

Participants will be required to complete all three units and also to undertake a practical placement within their workplace or the youth club/group where they volunteer. In order to complete the PDA, participants will be observed delivering youth work in their workplace or the group/club where they volunteer.


ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All applicants/participants must be 18+ and be able to demonstrate that they:

- Have min 1 year experience of regularly working/volunteering in a youth work setting.
- Currently work or volunteer in a youth work setting in Renfrewshire
- Have written permission from their workplace or the youth group where they volunteer, confirming they can be observed delivering youth work as part of the PDA course.
- Are able to attend **all** the outlined training sessions and undertake **all** the required assessments.

COURSE STRUCTURE

This course will be delivered by a joint training team from Youth Scotland and Renfrewshire Council Youth Services using course materials developed by Youth Scotland. Additional learning resources relating to local practice and procedures will be provided by Youth Services.



The course will involve six main delivery sessions designed to build knowledge and skills in working with young people. Participants are required to take part in all six organised sessions of the programme. Participants will also be required to undertake additional research and learning activities in their own time and to compile a learning log / portfolio to evidence their work.

The PDA in Youth Work is divided into three units of work.

- Understanding and Exploring Youth Work
- Engaging Young People
- Delivering Youth Work

Unit 1 will be delivered (or taught) first to introduce participants to the underpinning knowledge they need to undertake Units 2 and Unit 3. Throughout Units 2 and 3, participants must practice developing their youth work skills within their own workplace/ volunteer setting. Unit 3 requires each participant to plan, organise and lead youth work sessions in their own workplace/ volunteer setting.

UNITS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

On completion of each unit, participants must demonstrate competence, knowledge and skills in each of the Learning Outcomes.

UNIT 1 Understanding and Exploring Youth Work

The Unit introduces participants to the context, core values and principles which underpin youth work and raises awareness of the issues facing young people and those working with them. It provides underpinning knowledge and understanding for the National Occupational Standards for Youth Work.

On completion of the Unit the participants should be able to:

1. Explain the current context of youth work in Scotland
2. Outline current definitions of youth work in Scotland
3. Explain the core values and principles underpinning youth work
4. Outline the factors which may impact on youth work practice

UNIT 2 Engaging Young People

This Unit is designed to provide participants with an understanding of communication and group work skills necessary to engage with young people in a range of settings.

On completion of the Unit the participants should be able to:

1. Describe a range of approaches which may be used to engage with young people

2. Outline relevant communication and interpersonal skills required of the youth worker
3. Describe group work skills used in youth work.

UNIT 3 Delivering Youth Work

This Unit is designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills required to work with young people in a range of youth work settings. It offers opportunities to develop practical skills and to demonstrate the application of the core values and principles of youth work in practice.

On completion of the Unit the participants should be able to:

1. Demonstrate the application of core values and principles of youth work in practice
2. Engage with young people in a youth work setting
3. Plan, deliver and review a youth work activity

THE LEARNING LOG/PORTFOLIO

Participants will be required to keep a learning log /portfolio to record and evidence their learning throughout the course. Support on how to complete this log / portfolio will be given.

ASSESSMENTS

Participants will be asked to undertake assessments for each unit. This will form part of their portfolio, see above.

As part of the assessment of Unit 3, participants will also be observed delivering a youth work activity in their own workplace/ volunteer setting. This observation will be carried out by a suitable person – either one of the course tutors or by a suitable workplace supervisor / colleague.

CERTIFICATION

Once participants have satisfactorily completed all three units of the PDA, the SQA Approved Centre (Youth Scotland) will process the paperwork and SQA will issue the PDA Certificate.

Course Timetable

Information Evening		Monday 6th February 2023	6pm – 7pm
Unit 1	Day 1	Saturday 4th March 2023	10am – 4.30pm
	Day 2	Saturday 11th March 2023	10am – 4.30pm
Unit 2	Day 1	Saturday 22nd April 2023	10am – 4.30pm
	Day 2	Saturday 29th April 2023	10am – 4.30pm
Unit 3	Day 1	Saturday 20th May 2023	10am – 4.30pm
	Day 2	Saturday 3rd June 2023	10am – 4.30pm

Observed Practice session to be arranged between 22nd May – 2nd June – Dates to agreed with organisation and young people.

Assessment Due Dates (dates assessments have to be handed in by):

- **Unit 1: Monday 3rd April 2023**
- **Unit 2: Monday 15th May 2023**
- **Unit 3: Monday 19th June 2023**

A detailed programme for each of the sessions will be given to candidates at the start of each unit.


SUPPORT

All candidates will be supported throughout the course by members of the training/local staff team.

SQA REGISTRATION

This is a community-based course, delivered by a partnership of Youth Scotland and Renfrewshire Council Youth Services and accredited by SQA.

Youth Scotland is an SQA Approved Centre and all candidates will be required to register with the Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA).



COST: There will be no charge for attending this course as it is being heavily subsidized by Youth Scotland and Renfrewshire Council Youth Services and the Renfrewshire Youth Work Network fundraising. The market value of this course is over £600. Per person.

Please complete the attached PDA Renfrewshire course application form and return to: youth@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday 10th February 2023

We will be holding a selection panel after the closing date, and you will be notified if you have a place by 17th February 2023.

For further information about the Renfrewshire PDA in Youth Work course contact:

Renfrewshire Council Youth Services youth@renfrewshire.gov.uk
Tel: 07506966776

Michele Meehan, Youth Scotland Michele.meehan@youthscotland.org.uk
Tel: 0131 554 2561/ 07816300183 – please leave message if no answer