

LAMBETH YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE DETAIL

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The YOS Interventions Team was created in order to bring together all the specialist services delivered to young people and their families who engage with the YOS. The Interventions Team aims to:

- To develop and deliver a wide range of universal and specialist interventions based on evidence, consultation and partnership working
- To equip and support Case Officers in their work with young people by providing high quality resources and training
- To embed Restorative Justice principles in the YOS and provide a high quality service to victims
- To prevent young people from entering the Criminal Justice System through Triage and Out of Court Processes

Our interventions:

- are based on a thorough assessment of the young person's needs
- have a theoretical framework
- target offending behaviour
- are cognitive behavioural in approach where possible
- have programme integrity

Our interventions address attitudes and patterns of behaviour that contribute to offending. Programmes are carefully structured to challenge young people in their thinking and support them to:

- accept responsibility for their actions
- think rationally about the situations they face in their everyday life
- learn new ways of coping and responding without offending
- manage their behaviour responsibly

The YOS Interventions Team includes the Restorative Justice Team which works with the victims of our young offenders to repair the harm caused, the Prevention Team which works with young people in the Triage Service and on Out of Court Disposals i.e. Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions and the Education and Family Support Team which is described below.

This team comprises a pre-16 Exclusion and Reintegration Officer, a post-16 Early Intervention Youth Advisor and two Speech and Language Therapists. All young people referred to Lambeth YOS ETE staff are cross checked against the SEN department database for SEN/Statements. All partners will be guided and supported to adhere to the new legislation governing SEN which comes into force on 1st September 2014, for example, custodial establishments.

Through Lambeth YOS Intervention Strategy, there are a number of ways the Service is supporting young people with education and pathways which address education:

Pre-16 ETE

Attendance Support

- Identify the reasons young people are not attending and provide realistic pathways to engagement
- Increase young people's engagement in education
- Support young people's positive factors
- Meet with young person/school/family/carer
- Identify a plan of action for young people with problematic attendance
- Work with school/social care to identify external resources where applicable to support young people
- Ensure SEN is appropriately addressed in order to enable or facilitate attendance

Seamless education in the community transition

- Provide seamless education to young people leaving custody to make sure that young people carry on in education as they have done in custody
- Meet with young people in custody to discuss their education options and to make sure appropriate education is provided on release incorporating SEN plans
- Liaising with custody education units to obtain young people's education reports
- Referring young people's cases to the pupil placement process to identify a suitable education provision
- Supporting young people and parents to make sure that young people attend the provisions provided
- Working with YOS officers to ensure education element is reflected in their license where applicable

Transition

- Assisting young people to identify post 16 courses
- Supporting young people to fill in application forms
- Identifying relevant courses for young people with no qualifications
- Identifying apprenticeships
- Attending a provision with young people when an appropriate adult is not present
- Working with SEN to make sure young people with a SEN statement meet with the SEN transition coordinator and an appropriate action plan is completed

Court Action

- Ensure parents are adhering to their children's education responsibilities
- Keep young people engaged in education
- Enforce compliance by parents and young people

- Work with schools to collect evidence for the Lambeth Court Officer for prosecution
- Liaising with the Court Team to make sure that cases are dealt with in a timely manner
- Communicating with the court and all stakeholders to ensure parents and young people know that we are working in a multi agency approach

Reintegration into Education

- Assess and identify an education provision with partners and third sector (where applicable) for young people out of school
- Refer young people who do not have education provision to the pupil placement process or the complex case panel and ensure that where necessary SEN is identified
- Liaise with other Local Authorities if the young person is out of the Lambeth Borough and follow the process that is relevant to the Local Authority
- Share relevant and appropriate offending history where applicable with reintegration teams of local authorities where the young person is residing
- Make sure that the provision that is identified meets the young person's needs
- Liaise with SEN department to ensure the young people's annual reviews are being conducted and statements are available and up to date
- Liaise with young people's previous education provision to establish attainment to inform decision making

Post-16 ETE

At Lambeth YOS, pathways designed to promote access and participation in ETE for Post 16's are as follows:

- Assisting young people to identify appropriate educational and employment opportunities in order to meet their aspirations. Support is also provided to young people who are not ready to engage in such opportunities, through mentoring and signposting to provision that will meet their individual needs
- CV building support
- Employment and Further Education College application activity
- Information sharing opportunities, such as local training, apprenticeships and volunteer vacancies
- Disclosure advice for young people with criminal records
- Support for applying for financial assistance
- Use of various techniques such as Motivation Interviewing and Neuro-Linguistic Programming

Group-work

The Lambeth YOS ETE team will facilitate an interactive group work program for clients aged 15+, for the purpose of preparing them for the ETE landscape and assisting them in making the transition from NEET to EET.

The program will be delivered over a period of six weeks and will incorporate various delivery methods, in order to cater for various learning styles and SEN.

The topics covered will include:

- Live your dream
- Motivation to engage and overcoming barriers to learning
- Disclosure of conviction history - requirements and support
- CV and interview technique workshop

- How to make a positive impression
- Social media & technology: Use and abuse
- Celebrating your strengths
- The benefits of goal setting

At the end of the program clients will be supported to apply for ETE activity and apprenticeships.

Speech and Language Therapy

Research shows that 60-90% of young people within the Youth Justice System have Speech Language and Communication Needs which impacts on their ability to engage in verbally mediated interventions and puts them at risk of non-compliance, reduced engagement and re-offending.

Speech and Language therapists have been employed by Lambeth YOS since June 2013. To date they have:

- Facilitated training on Identification of Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and Strategies to Support Young People with SLCN for all new case managers
- Developed a screening tool for ETE staff and case managers to use which also acts as a referral form
- Assessed all young people who have screened positively for SLCN
- Delivered direct therapy sessions to young people with assessed needs
- Where direct work was deemed inappropriate, supporting case managers with strategies, liaising with schools and other agencies and linking with the Interventions team to support and access group work.