

Central Great Yarmouth

Annual Progress Report - Year 2
March 2024— August 2025



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About NR Thirty

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Children and young people in Central Great Yarmouth (CGY) are three times more likely to grow up in poorer households and are more likely to present characteristics that can indicate a risk of offending.

By working towards a collective model, the NRThirty programme brings organisations in Central Great Yarmouth together to become more mutually reinforcing as they work towards a common agenda and begin to share the resources available to them more effectively, and better meet the needs of the communities they serve.

NR Thirty Key Themes

- Significantly improve literacy standards among children
- Improve communication between the community and the organisations that serve them.
- Create new opportunities for local children and young people
- Improve the quality of life for young people in Central Great Yarmouth
- Give families easy access to the support they need



Our Programme Vision

'As a partnership, we are committed to improving the life chances of children and young people living in Central Great Yarmouth and ensuring they grow up in a community where they feel they are safe, belong and are supported to thrive'

In the 2nd year of NR Thirty, we have been able to build upon the solid foundations of collective working that were established in Year 1 and significantly increase the range of interventions, activities and services on offer to children and young people. This has led to much greater reach and awareness for the programme.

Why Central Great Yarmouth?

Children and young people in Central Great Yarmouth are three times more likely to grow up in poorer households and are more likely to present characteristics that can indicate a risk of offending.

44% of households with children deemed to be experiencing deprivation relating to income vs 16% nationally

56.7% of children are receiving free school meals (2021) - this is 2.7x higher than national average (20.8%)

Youth unemployment rates are **1.4x higher** than the national average (65 per 1000)

42% of 16-24 year olds surveyed felt unsafe in their local area



This report summarizes the significant progress of the NR Thirty programme in Central Great Yarmouth during its second year, through to August 2025.

The programme, which is supported by the National Lottery Community Fund, Youth Endowment Fund and John Laing Charitable Trust focuses on a community-led approach to improving outcomes for children and young people. In this second year, the programme has successfully built upon its foundations, expanded its reach, and delivered a wider range of interventions across its three core workstreams: Literacy, Education, Employment and Training (EET), and Youth Offer.

Programme Aims

The project aims to improve literacy standards, provide support for families, improve quality of life, create new opportunities for local children and young people, and enhance communication between the community and the organisations that serve them.

Literacy Aims

- Help schools work collectively to improve literacy capabilities of children and young people, this supports higher education and future employment opportunities. We do this through school assessments, CPD and interventions.

Education, Employment & Training Aims

- Support young people in CGY who are at the highest risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) to transition into sustained post 16 and post 19 education, employment and/or training.

Youth Offer Aims

- Work collaboratively with a range of different delivery partners to develop the services and provisions available for young people in CGY, funding access to safe spaces, positive activities, role models and the support they and their families need.

Alongside delivery of a range of interventions across these workstreams, Right to Succeed acts as a local backbone support team and facilitates collective working principles to drive long-lasting systems change in place.

Key Achievements

Expanded Reach and Collective Working

The programme reached **1,421 children and young people**, involving **49 local organizations** in a collective working model. **A youth panel of 30 young people** was developed, increasing their influence on the programme's direction. The programme also brought together a **network of over 80 youth sector professionals**.

Literacy Workstream

The literacy workstream gained significant momentum, expanding to include **8 partner schools** (5 primary, 3 secondary). The programme's collective working approach has helped schools share best practices, with a noticeable improvement in reading capabilities among primary school children. The mean average Standard Age Score for reading improved from a baseline of **92.9 to 95, closing the gap with the national average of 100**.

EET Workstream

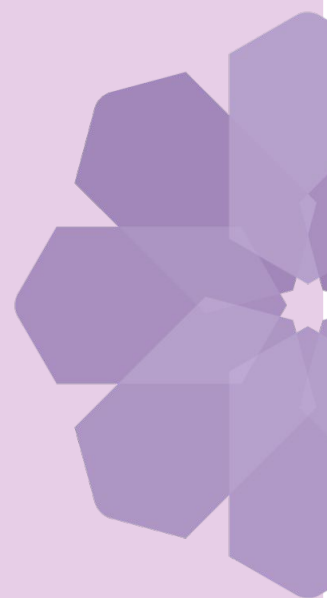
The EET workstream focused on supporting young people at risk of being Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET). A Futures Framework **provided support to 66 young people** leaving school. Engagement coaching was delivered **to 86 at-risk young people**, helping them address personal challenges. The Work Experience programme, in its second year, was expanded to provide more opportunities for young people.

Youth Offer Workstream

The Youth Offer workstream created vibrant and accessible opportunities for young people, providing safe spaces and positive activities. It established a core year-round offer with delivery partners focusing on music, cookery, sport, arts, and gaming.

Supporting Young Futures Fund

A new **Supporting Young Futures Fund** was created, funding 12 local organizations to deliver a comprehensive range of activities supporting both EET and the Youth Offer workstream.



Our Year in Numbers

1,467

children and young people
engaged with the
programme

1,539

children and young people
assessed or supported
through whole-school
training

30

Practitioners trained

49

Partner organisations
worked with

100

Adult residents engaged

39

Practitioners engaged in
other ways





Part 1: Literacy

Literacy Workstream

We focus on Literacy because it is the '**masterskill**' of education; raising literacy means that children are better able to access the curriculum, are at a lower risk of exclusion, and more likely to leave school with **key qualifications**, increasing their chances of transitioning to a positive destination in education, employment or training post-16 and reducing their risk of exploitation.

Through the Literacy workstream, children and young people's literacy needs are identified and met so that they're able to access the curriculum in school. We do this by using **assessments, evidence-informed interventions and strategies, staff training and capacity building and establishing a community of practice** around literacy development.

Literacy Impact

1539
Children
assessed

8 Schools
supported

90
pupils
benefitted from
targeted
interventions

47%
increase in
highest
ability
readers

Development
of an active
**Literacy
Working
Group**

“Right To Succeed has enabled our school to forensically interpret data through the NGRT tests; it has confirmed and supported our in-school reading assessments. The funding has given the children access to whole-class texts with actual books rather than IWB screenshots or print outs.” Primary School Literacy Lead

Literacy

Intervention Examples

St Nicholas Priory primary school introduced the CUSP curriculum to replace the previous curriculum entirely. CUSP is an evidence-led programme designed to enhance learning through carefully structured, cumulative and coherent modules. Pupils now have access to all new reading materials, a structured literacy learning plan, and teachers have been trained on how to deliver this.

“...using the NGRT assessments we were able to pin point specific areas of support. It was really useful to look at these assessments across schools and discuss any similarities, differences or ways forward.” Literacy Lead



Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, a primary school, was at a point where they felt unable to diagnose literacy issues themselves, so RtS commissioned Tony Whatmuff, a literacy specialist across KS1-4, to work with the school to observe lessons, identify issues, and recommend improvements in reading and writing development.

“Children are more confident to talk about books, summarise what they've read and pull information from texts” Literacy Lead

Outcomes

In Central Great Yarmouth Reading Ability Scores have risen.

Non-Free School Meal pupils increased from **100.7 to 102.3 in SAS points**, and Free School Meal pupils increased from 95.9 to 96.4. The overall average moved from 98.2 to 99.2, a gain of 1 point. The gap between Free School Meal and non-Free School Meal pupils is now **1.1 points, slightly reducing the disadvantage gap.**

Demonstrating the progress since the start of the project, the average scores for the primary schools in the project, our primary schools have risen **1.7** points from **92.9 to 94.64.**



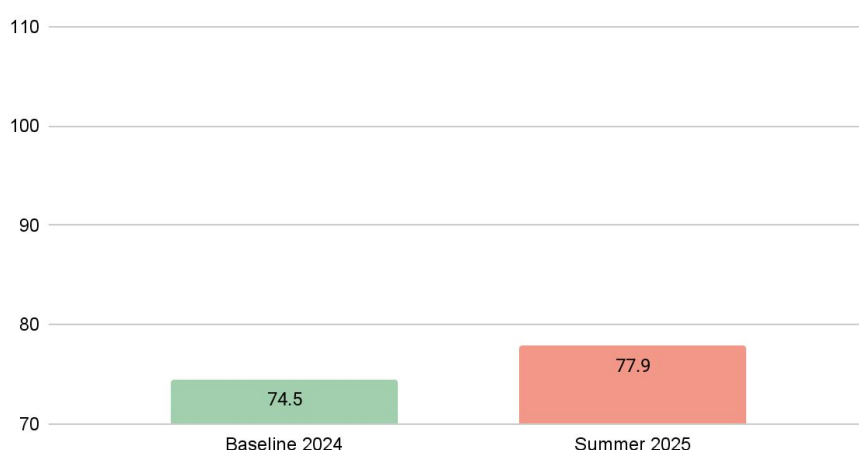
Secondary schools have maintained and improved scores above **100**, with an average score of **103.4** in **Summer 2025**



In Central Great Yarmouth, the lowest readers have made progress. Their average Standard Age Score went up from **74.5 in 2024 to 77.9 in Summer 2025, an increase of 3.4 points.**

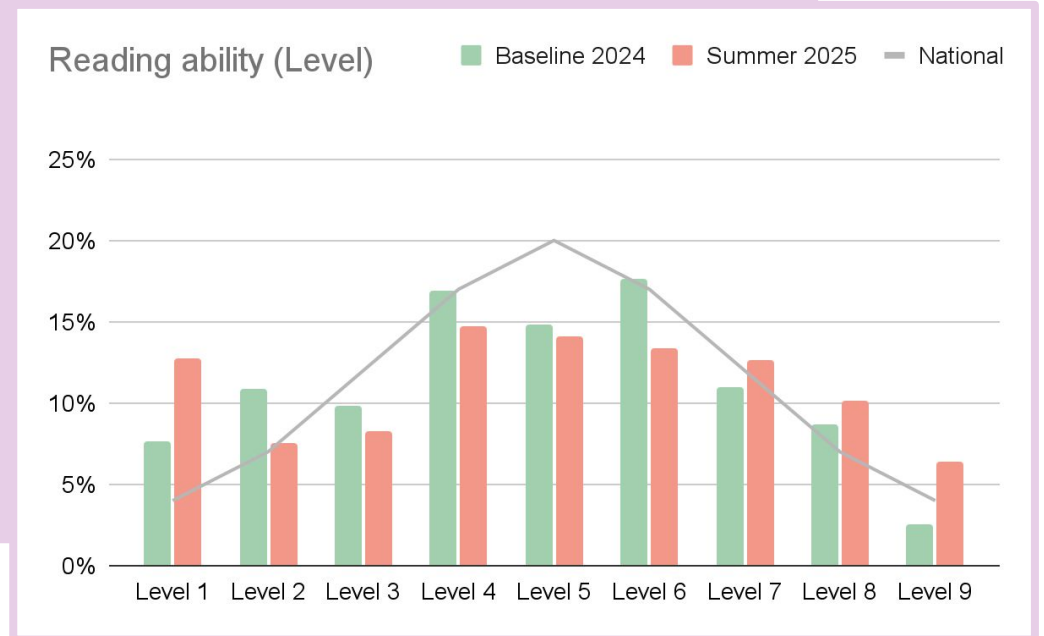
This is a meaningful improvement for pupils at the lowest levels, based on 181 children.

Progress for lowest readers (Standard Age Score)



+3.4 Increase in average Standard Age Score for lowest readers (level 1 and 2)

Partner schools reading results **went up from 100 to 147, a 47% increase.** This shows more pupils are reaching the top levels. These results are based on 891 pupils.



47% change in the number of highest ability readers (level 8 and 9)





Part 2: Education, Employment & Training

Employment Education and Training

The Education, Employment & Training workstream aims to identify and support young people who are at risk of not moving to post-16 destinations to transition into sustained post 16 and post 19 education, employment and/or training opportunities. Young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) is a significant issue in Central Great Yarmouth; with the NEET rate being 1.4x higher than the national average.

In year two of the two of the NR Thirty programme we have implemented key options to support young people with sustaining EET after leaving compulsory education.

Engagement Coaching and Mentoring

NR Thirty has implemented **Engagement Coaching and Mentoring** to support young people to get the most out of education and training, and providing clearer information and guidance on post-school opportunities.

Delivered by **The Matthew Project (TMP)** within secondary schools for young people who have been identified as being at high risk of NEET as well as a community cohort of already NEET young people.

Work Experience

For work experience in year two, the **EET Working Group** were keen to increase participation and provide a broader range of opportunities including construction, mechanics, backstage crafts, event planning and catering.

New work experience projects have been set up to ensure young people get a meaningful placement that suits their interests and more help with securing work experience and job fairs to get useful guidance.

Support and Guidance

The Futures Framework, managed by **East Norfolk Sixth Form (ENSF)** is delivering generalised, holistic support to help young people to navigate the barriers they may face in making a post-16 decision. ENSF also provides pastoral support to young people once in attendance at college to ensure they transition well into further education.

To ensure **collective working conditions** are met within this workstream NR Thirty has set up a working group of local organisations that meet regularly to understand the barriers to employment for young people to give better support and be available to address barriers to education and employment

The programme has also provided funding to local organisations to offer more support with **CV writing** and **job applications** to access to a wider variety of jobs, that are available locally.

Case study: Employment Coaching

Leonie's Story

Leonie, a pupil in a Great Yarmouth secondary school, attended sessions with an **Engagement Coach** to address a number of issues. Leonie reported that she had **experienced bullying during her school life and had a chaotic home life**. Her parents had recently separated, and she was often caught in the middle of this turbulent relationship.

Leonie met with her Coach three times and had the space to vent her feelings about her situation. **She did painting and drawing during these sessions** as this helped make them less intense and enabled her to speak more freely. Improving her confidence and social anxiety was a central focus of sessions.

During the summer holidays, Leonie and her Coach met at a coffee shop. Her father, who dropped her off, explained that over the past month he had seen a **huge increase in Leonie's confidence levels and happiness**. Leonie had moved into her father's house and had more independence and a peaceful environment.

In a later session, the Coach supported Leonie to access the **Mancroft Advice Project**, where she found information on accessible activities and made positive decisions about participating. Leonie attended the activity programme over the summer including a group trip to **Pleasurewood Hills, a theme park**, along with 11 other young people. It was a huge achievement for Leonie to overcome her social anxiety to be able to engage with the group throughout the day. Leonie is continuing to attend multiple activities. She has expressed that having a space to explore how she is feeling, talk about what is going on in her life and have support accessing activities was incredibly valuable.



Education, Employment & Training Impact

66 young people engaged with the Future Framework - advice and support for post 16 transitions

86 young people received 1:1 engagement coaching

36 young people attended work experience placements

89 young people received financial advice and support with job applications

"As a result of this project, we saw 90% of pupils gain improvements in behaviour and attendance on a case by case basis."

Deputy Head, Charter Academy

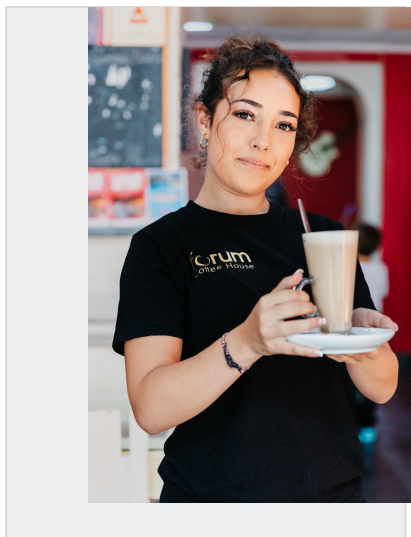
"I learnt more communication skills, listening and speaking to customers. Working with others was good."

"At East Norfolk Sixth Form College the work that we are doing with RTS has really helped provide even more support for young people. Our student numbers are increasing and we are proud to be raising the aspirations of our young people."

Further Progress

In addition, TMP are **offering a community-based provision**, working with young people that are already NEET - they have managed to get referrals from Norfolk County Council, are connected with the Home Education service and are also working closely with the Detached Youth Service. We have also had young people signposted from the **Cafe Collaboration project** (see Case Study below).

Work Experience can be pivotal in supporting young people gain experience, skills and develop their work readiness.



The EET working group identified an opportunity to further support young people at the highest risk of NEET through **assisting them with securing tailored work experience placements**. In the first pilot year, 17 young people completed placements.

For year 2, the EET Working Group was **keen to increase participation** and provide a broader range of opportunities through different employers that were more closely aligned with the interests the young people had identified.

Consequently, the Year 2 Work Experience offer has developed significantly, This year we worked with 5 partners, those shown below and Freshly Greated (Event planning and evaluation) and Out There Arts (backstage craft, stage management) offering a range of offers including:

- Action Community Enterprises (ACE) - vocational workshops with areas in construction / carpentry / mechanics / hair and beauty;
- Mancroft Advice Project - catering which will include Level 2 Health and Hygiene certificate;
- The GYBC Preservation Trust - renovation work with a preservation trust in a local church including traditional skills such as stonemasonry / stained glass as well as more general site work.

In addition, we are working with partners to develop a green energy job research project with the aim of exploring how to get young people into jobs in the local area - a flourishing local sector.

Learning and Adapting

Feedback from Year 1 of the EET workstream has been instrumental in shaping and enhancing the offer in Year 2. For example, the Work Experience pilot in Year 1 - although it provided valuable experiences for a cohort of young people, the EET working group, in conjunction with the views of young people, thought it required further development to extend the breadth of the placements portfolio to increase participation and inclusion through new partnership arrangements that were more aligned to the needs and aspirations of young people.



Part 3: Youth Offer

Youth Offer Workstream

In Year 2 we have developed a vibrant and accessible youth offer **providing positive inputs into the lives of vulnerable young people as well as opportunities to feel safe, learn, develop and acquire skills.** This has been achieved through a core young offer, the Supporting Young Futures Fund and Safe Spaces.

Between February and May 2024, taster sessions for young people were piloted to test their effectiveness in supporting young people, Following this successful pilot, 4 delivery partners have now been onboarded to offer year-round provision for young people on the following themes:

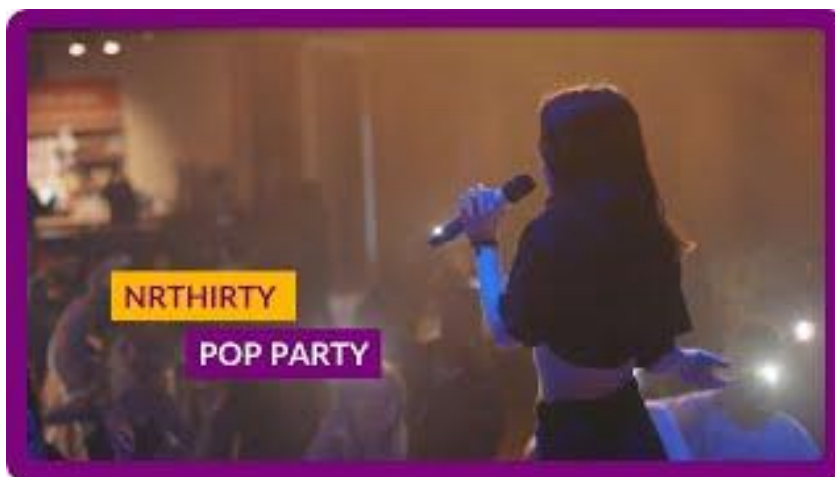
- Music - Freshly Greated
- Cookery - Mancroft Advice Project
- Arts - Original Projects
- Gaming - The Vault

Building on that core year-round offer, we are now delivering a range of additional services for young people. The Youth Offer working group led on the development of a new funding stream, the '**Supporting Young Futures Fund.**' It is aimed at supporting smaller, local community organisations and those who are keen to enhance or trial new aspects to their offer for local young people. The activities were selected by the Youth Panel in conjunction with the Working Group and Steering Group.

- 12 partner organisations are delivering a comprehensive range of activities for young people with inclusion at the core of the offer. Examples of the activities include:
- Action Community Enterprises (ACE) - personal development, vocational skills and career aspirations for young people who are NEET or have Special Educational Needs or Disabilities;
- Norwich Community Sports Foundation - sports and recreation activities for young people identified as at risk of NEET / anti-social behaviour;
- On Your Side - a homework club aimed at young people from ethnic minority communities;
- Top Banana - activity days including bike maintenance and cycling club citizenship.

Pop Party

In February 2025, following a series of workshops, Freshly Greated ran a 'Pop Party' in partnership with St. George's Theatre to give local young people the opportunity to showcase their talents.



Case study: Cafe Collaboration

A particular highlight has been a new partnership project, which has developed organically through the NRThirty network to address a real issue in the town- anti-social behaviour hotspots.

The Targeted Youth Support Service (TYSS) and Mancroft Advice Project (MAP) asked NR Thirty for support with running a Cafe Collaboration - an evening session once a week in St George's Park, which serves as the main park for the town and is frequently utilised by the local community.

The project was designed to establish a consistent presence in the area with sessions being held twice weekly in the evening. Over 24 sessions, the project has engaged with over 200 young people from diverse backgrounds and age groups, with the core demographic being 14-16 years old.

Feedback from a local business previously affected by high rates of ASB has evidenced a significant improvement. This success is attributed to the project's proactive approach, including the involvement of young people in problem-solving and prevention planning. Enhanced safety for young people and fewer negative interactions with law enforcement highlight the positive community impact.

This initiative has also led to 16 young people who could be considered 'hard to reach' transitioning to regular attendance at other NR Thirty services and activities. Furthermore, the initiative provides a pathway for signposting participants to other organisations for specialised support.

Thank you for making the park safer for everyone' Young Person, Great Yarmouth

Enhanced Youth Offer

A highly successful element of the Youth Offer has been the establishment of Safe Spaces delivered by local providers. **Over 20 young people regularly attend** the twice weekly sessions each partner offers - **Our Space** delivered by **Freshly Greated** and **'Chill Spot' and 'Sport Spot' delivered by MAP**. The Safe Spaces are all youth led with young people deciding how the spaces will be used. In total, 144 young people have now engaged with these groups since last year.

The impact of a wider offer for young people and the development of a strong network of youth service providers has led to outcomes that are gaining recognition in other sectors. In November 2024, we were approached to develop a proposal for additional funding from the **Norfolk Police Crime Commissioners' Serious Violence Duty team**. This has supported an additional 6 places for young people at risk of NEET at an alternative provision programme, offering them one day a week out of school, to **learn vocational and practical skills in trades such as construction, mechanics and hair and beauty** alongside coaching and mentoring to encourage better school attendance and engagement.

The Youth Offer workstream is vital because it is best placed to tap into a young person holistically to find out more about their specific needs and barriers. We have already seen this overlap with the other workstreams - many attendees at creative sessions are now attending school more regularly, several have found part-time jobs or are regularly volunteering and gaining valuable and transferable skills for their futures.

Learning and Adapting

The Supporting Young Futures Fund offered a great opportunity for learning, both within the Right to Succeed team and wider stakeholders at all levels from the Youth Panel to the Steering Group. For Right to Succeed, planning how to approach the decision-making process to ensure a breadth of perspectives on the applications at all levels of our governance model, was an interesting aspect of the programme.

Externally, there has been feedback about this being a very different and refreshing approach to grant giving for community partners. Traditionally, grants and funding decisions are made by those who do not live or work in the area. Our approach has created local input and transparency around decision making and has led to a richer, more in depth understanding of how different organisations operate, who previously may have felt in funding competition with each other.

Youth Offer Impact

In year two of the NR Thirty programme, funding was offered to a wide range of different local organisations in Central Great Yarmouth that could offer activities and support that young people said they wanted and needed. Including homework clubs, job applications, creative workshops and sports activities. This also included funding for three open access safe spaces for young people to go to with trusted adults to get additional support.

This year the youth offer has achieved the following impact:

12 Local Delivery Partners
Commissioned

3 Safe Spaces set up with
activities 4 eventings per week

1 NRTHIRTY website live to
access whats on

150 young people consulted
about youth provision

1244 young people have
engaged with all aspects of the
youth offer in the past year.

74 Youth Panel sessions





Part 4: Systems & Cultural Change

Systems & Cultural Change Aims

To empower and build the capacity of local people, organisations and stakeholders to develop a collective working approach to supporting children and young people and develop approaches that can be sustainable and lead to long-term impact.

What is unique about this approach is the development of authentic collective working bringing together local people, stakeholders and partners together under a shared ambition to improve the lives of children and young people facing disadvantage.

Youth Leadership

A core programme aim for NR Thirty was the **involvement of local young people in designing services and interventions that met their needs and aspirations**. We are very proud of what we have achieved in terms of the engagement and the breadth of the contribution that young people are making in their community.

This year the Youth panel has become very well established. The panel is **made up of 30 young people** who are from, and representative of the local area and are aged between 11-19 years old, this group play a vital role in governing the programme. The youth panel members meet at three different settings, one based at a secondary school, one at a sixth form college and a further group from the community that have been recruited through youth groups and local provision. This means the **representation of youth voice is diverse and has given these young people** a new opportunity to work alongside children of different ages and backgrounds in a positive and productive way.

The Youth Panel has been instrumental in shaping the programme. Examples of their input have been:

- Informing the selection process for the Supporting Young Futures Fund;
- Helping to develop the NR Thirty website;
- Providing insight to partners regarding the Winter Gardens renovation project;
- Attending the Safer Neighbourhood Partnership meeting; Met with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk to workshop ideas to improve the area for young people;
- Involvement in local Volunteer Fair;
- Involved with a theatre piece on County Lines with St. George's Theatre;
- Creating 'exam stress bags' for other young people;

Youth Voice

In addition, a group from the Youth Panel attended the 'Youth Voice' event hosted by Norfolk County Council and visited the East Norfolk Medical Practice to provide insight into barriers facing young people accessing health services. The group had their first residential trip in early April 2025 taking part in a range of different outdoor activities and a couple of workshops, including a session with some representatives from the Steering Group.



Part 5: Year 3 & Beyond

Working collectively to effect change

Right to Succeed supports communities in areas of high deprivation to work collectively to give children and young people the best start in life.

We do this because we believe every child deserves the right to succeed, no matter where they live. We bring together residents, professionals and decision-makers to co-design a programme that is bespoke to the needs of the local community. We call this way of working *place-based change*.

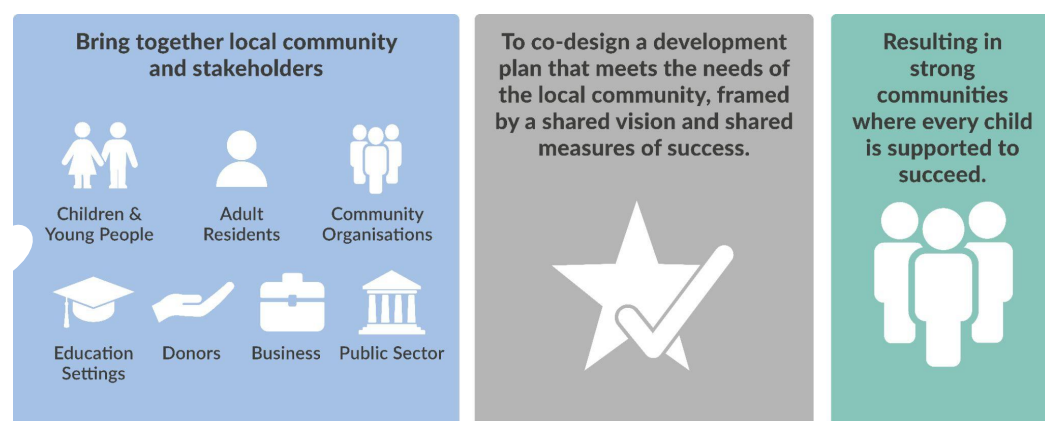
How we work

Our Theory of Change

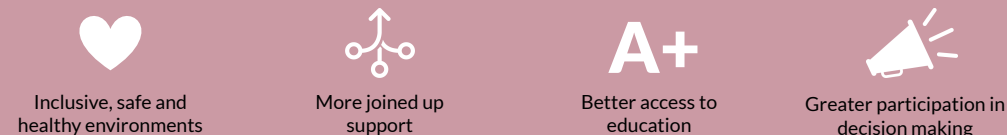
Our Theory of Change sets out the steps that we take in order to effect change.

The target beneficiaries are the children and young people living in the communities

Together with local residents, professionals and leaders, we:



Our work ultimately benefits children and young people by creating:



Our approach to sustainability

Building on our work to date, and working towards achieving the full ambition of Cradle to Career embedding the principles of collective working and locally-led decision making. During year 4 we intend to:

Overarching plans

Continuing the momentum and energy of the programme to grow impact	Embedding place-based change principles of collective ambition	Increasing the capacity of individuals and organisations	Continue to learn and evaluate and share that knowledge for continuous improvement	Creating the blueprint and conditions for long-term legacy and sustainability
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Literacy

Continue assessments to identify children who require differentiated interventions and plan literacy work collectively;

Deliver Continuous Professional Development sessions for teachers to improve their practice and disseminate that throughout their schools;

Increase Standard Age Scores in reading to support pupils to close the gap to national averages;

Increase confidence in Literacy delivery in schools through working with school staff to evaluate the programme.

EET

Deliver intensive Engagement Coaching for more 'at risk' young people

Deliver advice and transition for young people on how to access further

Education, training and careers, including apprenticeships and year-round work placements

Extend the scope of local businesses involved in providing work experience placements.

Youth Offer

Support local organisations to provide a varied youth offer, with a focus on sustainability for future

Further develop Youth Leadership through the youth panel leading the change in their community and supporting programme governance

Deliver two Youth Sector networking events to embed collective working, build capacity in the sector and connect services with statutory bodies.

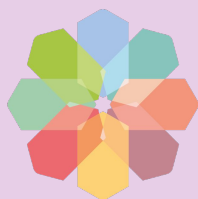
Support further development of the NR Thirty website and investigate handover of management to local organisation

Thank you to our programme partners



Thank you to our programme funders





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