



COMIC CLUB JAN 2014

At the start of Comic Club the aims and objectives we set were for the young people to;

- Develop drawing skills and their creativity when creating comic strips
- To be confident in designing their comics
- Grow their self-esteem through presenting their ideas and designs to the group
- To work in groups developing interpersonal skills.

The young people were split into two groups of seven. These were the groups they were working in throughout the six weeks to design their comics.

The first couple of weeks were very well attended but once we got into the hard work of design characters and scenes, attendance dropped. However, those who attended throughout the six weeks worked very hard and very well in groups, and at the end we had two exciting and creative comics.

The working in two groups system definitely helped the young people develop their interpersonal skills. Primary school children sometimes have a tendency to want to interact with their friends all the time, but by putting them in two groups with a mix of ages and gender, they had to get to know those they were working with to make this comic happen. I saw a clear positive change in the dynamic of the group by the time we reached the last week, and also a competitive edge developed between the two groups over who would have the best comic. I was working with the same group every week and it was great to see the shy members of the group grow in self confidence and start to suggest ideas.

The final comic really was a culmination of all their ideas, not just that of the loudest and most outgoing in the group, which is fantastic to see. Several of the young people wrote on the feedback at the end of the club that they had developed drawing and writing skills but also made new friends. This is a positive for us and shows the club was a success for those who attended.

However, a number of them also wrote that the club could have been improved by having more people there. With the number of youth workers we have the

groups were perfectly sized, but in the future if we have higher attendances, gain another youth worker, and are therefore able to have 3 groups then that would be perfect. We achieved the objectives and aims set out at the start of the club and everyone who was there gained a huge amount from this club and ultimately that is the most important aim.

