



## HOMWORK CLUB 2017

2017 has been another good year for the homework club here at The Factory Skatepark (FSP). Throughout 2017 we ran 4 homework sessions catering for both ages 5 to 9 and 10 to 14.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings from 4.30pm to 6pm were for ages 5 to 9. In these sessions young people spend 45 minutes in the youth room with assistance provided by staff and volunteers for them to complete their homework. We cover core subjects such as English and Maths, but we also give young people the opportunity to learn about modern languages, art and design, science, etc. The young people then have 45 minutes in the skatepark arena learning different skills on scooter, skateboard, and inline skates.

The Tuesday session from 6pm to 8pm was for ages 10 to 14 and follows a similar format. Often in this club young people have more homework than the younger age group. Sometimes this will be work not completed in school time, traditional worksheets that are handed out as homework, or online exercises that young people are given to complete. Also with the older kids as they are working towards exams study material and SQA past papers are more common. Once homework is completed these young people have an hour in the skatepark arena to

learn new tricks and skills.

The majority of young people attending live close to The Factory Skatepark (FSP) and therefore face challenges beyond the usual growing up pains as these are areas of multiple deprivation. The staff, and the volunteers who are known as stewards, are there to spend time with the young people and assist in any way they can. In the skatepark arena this can mean teaching them how to ride a skateboard or inline skates for the first time, or going down the biggest ramps on scooters. We are able to accommodate for all levels of ability.

In evaluation we ask young people whether they are enjoying the club and getting the level of support they need. Especially with those at secondary school we ask them if they are becoming more confident in their learning academically, and feeling more able to ask the questions they need answered in school. I am pleased to report that feedback across the board is positive, with young people reporting that they are more confident in school and at this club and subsequently have developed their self-worth, have developed their social skills, and have an improved attitude to learning.

Attendance figures in general have been very good. Our target for 2017 was 1148 attendances across 4 school terms and in total we have had 1296 attendances.

Therefore we have surpassed our target for this year and we will be aiming to do

so again in 2018.

We are extremely grateful to Dundee Partnership for support with funding for resources and staff. Without their continued backing we would not be able to run these clubs. In 2018 we will be continuing with the Monday and Wednesday homework clubs for ages 5 to 9 and will be running two homework clubs on Tuesday evenings for ages 10 to 14, one from 5pm to 7pm and one from 6pm to 8pm.

