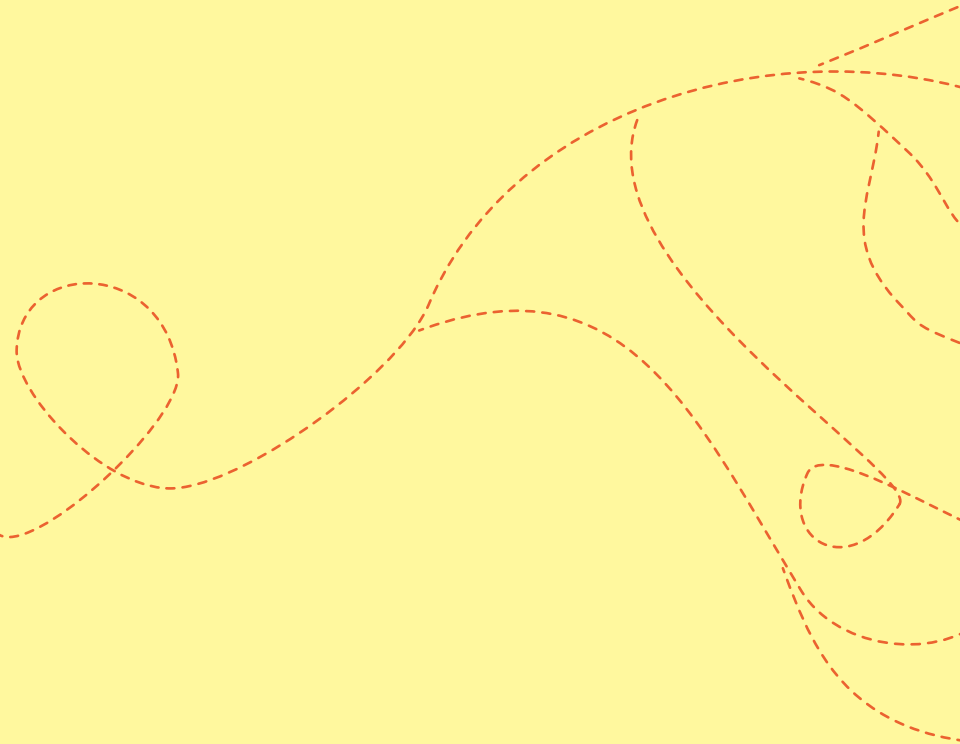


The Stowe Centre  
Youth Club



**Positive Thinking**  
**Positive Futures**

Stowe  
is all  
about...



## Stowe Is All About...

Friendship  
& Fun

Youth Enterprise  
Scheme

Dance

Mac Photo Studio  
& PC Suite

Opportunities

Respect & Trust

Catering  
& Training Kitchen

AQA Qualifications  
& Opportunities

Basketball

Emotional  
Support

Chess Club

Gym & Boxing

Multi-lingual  
Support Workers


Young Community  
Leaders Programme

Confidentiality

Sexual Health  
Clinic

Empowerment

Skills Campus



“Young people are the hidden assets that determine the future quality and value of the world.”

Neil Johnston, CEO Paddington Development Trust



## Introduction



Built by Westminster City Council, the new Stowe Centre is a purpose-built, state of the art facility for youth service provision in North Westminster. It is a community centre, a training space, and a safe and welcoming environment for young people to socialise and learn new skills.

Our small dedicated team is passionate about providing opportunities for young people. All our work with young people is designed to give a sense of purpose, increased self-esteem, improved communication skills with the view to enabling young people to develop into healthy young adults.

Our youth participants are amazing people. The enterprise projects with which they engage are giving real-life opportunities to learn business and teamworking skills which will stand them in good stead for their adult lives. We are proud of our young people – their abilities, their talents and their fresh and honest response to growing up in one of London's most economically deprived areas.

We are seeking support from local business to get involved in our activities – from sponsorship of projects to volunteering your time to providing work placement opportunities. We encourage everyone to come and experience our work – we always deliver.

**Jackie Rosenberg**  
**Director, The Stowe Centre**

The Stowe Centre is funded by grants from Westminster City Council and other charitable trusts. We are grateful for their continued support.

Youth Enterprise  
**Westminster Executive Club**

**“These young people are consistently performing in a professional manner. I am happy to give my industry contacts to them; I am proud to be involved.”**

Amy, volunteer & industry professional

Young people from all over Westminster, aged 13-21, have the opportunity to learn from young entrepreneurs in the creative industries. Professionals from the world of media, graphic design, fashion design, photography and music are coming to Stowe to run seminars and mentor fresh new talent in building their business ideas.

A fund has been established as part of the Westminster Executive Club for young talent to pitch their enterprise plans. Successful applicants will receive start-up funding to build their business ideas.



Youth Enterprise  
**The Cut**

“Stowe is the only youth centre  
which offers us real opportunities  
and progression to a career.”

Byran, youth participant, age 19

Who makes Stowe's Youth  
Enterprise projects happen?  
**Businesses and young people.**

The Cut was first published in  
Spring 2008. From the journalism  
to photography – layout design  
to editorial – this first-class  
publication is wholly devised  
and generated by a team of  
fifteen Stowe Youth Participants  
and published by Hardcore  
is More Than Music™.

The Cut is an exemplar  
programme of the Westminster  
Executive Club.



The Cut is a partnership between  
Hardcore is More Than Music™ and  
Paddington Development Trust.

## Youth Enterprises Opportunities

**“I am proud to say that I come to the Stowe. I have earned two AQA qualifications and have aspirations to become a professional photographer.”**

Kevin, youth participant, (age 16)

The Stowe Centre features industry-standard equipment throughout the building enabling young people to learn new, relevant skills to build their business ideas.

Patrick joined the Stowe Youth Club at age 12. He has learned graphic design skills through the state-of-the-art Mac suite at the Stowe Centre. Patrick joined the Fashion Directions project in 2007 and has since launched his lifestyle fashion brand, FlyWear, selling his designs online.

Fashion Directions is an exemplar programme in the Westminster Executive Club.



**“Why can't we have The Stowe Centre all around? Nobody has opportunities like we do in this place!”**

Patrick, youth participant (age 14)

## Opportunities

**“If it wasn’t for the Stowe Centre, I wouldn’t be the person I am today.”**

Hayleigh, youth participant (age 17)

The Stowe Centre provides opportunities for young people to gain recognition for achievement through a partnership scheme with Westminster Youth Services.

AQA qualifications are certificates of achievement and merit for practical-based activity. AQA qualifications are valuable to our young participants because they are valid, reliable and fair. The Stowe Centre offers a full range of AQA qualifications for its participants. From cooking to sport to creative activities, the opportunity to learn new skills and to be recognised for one’s accomplishment and achievement is one of the strengths of Stowe.

The Stowe Centre approach ensures that young people feel able to explore their ideas and talents freely and creatively.

**The benefits are real and relevant.**



## Activities

The Stowe Youth Club provides a safe and welcoming place for young people to meet. All activities feature state-of-the-art facilities, making a valuable and memorable experience for everyone.

You can choose from film nights on Fridays, PC and Mac IT suites, music and recording studios, dance classes, cooking lessons, photography, or simply chilling out in the lounge with friends.

The Stowe Boxing Club has been running for 40 years and is hoping to produce at least one Olympic contender for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Stowe features a multi-purpose sports hall & gym and the Westminster Sports Unit runs organised sport and fitness programmes for over 16s. There's always something fun to do.



## Leadership

**“The leadership at the Stowe Centre is giving young people the confidence to use what they discover to do brave things.”**

Commander Steve Allen, Borough Commander, City of Westminster. Metropolitan Police

In 2008 a group of eight Stowe Youth Participants volunteered to be part of the Youth Community Leaders Project. They were offered three months training in effective teamwork, meeting governance and identifying funding opportunities.

Through this, Stowe's Youth Leaders organised an event on 11 June 2008, inviting local youth, the local community and the Metropolitan Police to come together for a meal and hold brave conversations about local issues involving youth crime and the relationships and perceptions with local youth and the police.



## Social

“The Stowe Centre is a good place for meeting new people without having to keep your guard up.”

Krenar, youth participant, age 16

“The Stowe is a place I can talk to my family – these people are my family.”

**Pat, youth participant (age 14)**

“I heard about Stowe from my friends. I have a day job and I come here after work. ”

**Von, youth participant (age 19)**

“Stowe is a positive magnet. It brings people together where they wouldn't gel normally.”

**Leonard, youth worker**

“We have good relationships with the young people's parents.”

**Nadia, youth worker**



## Our Team

“Some of our youth workers started out as participants. We are proud to work here and want local business to get involved to experience the power of our impressive young people.”

Michael, senior youth worker

All the team at the Stowe Centre are committed to improving the youth experience. This is a mutually-supportive environment operating on the central principles of empowerment and trust.

All of the Stowe team are CRB checked and qualified to work with young people. There is a Child Protection Policy in place and all staff are trained in child protection issues.

They believe in having brave conversations and encouraging good communication among the participants, staff and their families.



## Get Involved!

If you can see yourself working with some of the freshest talent in London, then call Michael on 020 7266 8223 or email [michael@pdt.org.uk](mailto:michael@pdt.org.uk) for more info.

We are continuously developing projects which will involve local business and young people. The Stowe Centre is a state-of-the-art facility with industry-standard equipment. We want businesses to get involved by donating their time and expertise and to become engaged in amazingly rewarding and innovative experiences.

We are looking for young people to carry out work placement opportunities in graphic design, photography, journalism, fashion design, web design, catering and music production.



## Facilities

The Stowe Centre is a resource for the local community. For more information about the space and hire rates contact Judith Mitchell on 020 7266 8221.



PDT wishes to thank the following funders for their on-going support: Westminster City Council, The Henry Smith Charity, John Lyon's Charity, Stowe Youth Trust.

**The Stowe Centre**  
258 Harrow Road  
London W2 5ES  
020 7266 8221  
[michael@pdt.org.uk](mailto:michael@pdt.org.uk)  
[judith@pdt.org.uk](mailto:judith@pdt.org.uk)

Printed on 100% post-consumer waste recycled paper.

