

Case Study

Envision School Team



School: Bruntcliffe School
Region: Leeds
Age range: 16 - 17 years old
Issue: Homelessness



What issue did they tackle and why?

Two teams came together at Bruntcliffe School. One group were concerned about the welfare of homeless people in Leeds, especially during one of the coldest winters in recent memory. Another group had a real interest in fashion but wanted to know more about the environmental issues around cheap disposable clothing.

What did they decide to do?

Joining together as Team EPIC (Every Person Involved In Culture) the teams organised a sponsored sleepout in the school car park to raise money and awareness for St George's Crypt, a local homeless shelter.

They sourced cardboard from local businesses and persuaded teachers to join them on a rainy February night where few got much sleep! A couple of the team members were interviewed the following morning on BBC Radio Leeds, gaining even more exposure.

The team also organised a recycled fashion workshop for the Year 9 students at their school, encouraging them to customise and repair clothes rather than throw them away. Inspired by what they had learned, they showcased their creations at a recycled fashion show to 200 Year 7 students.



What is the Envision Schools Programme?

Envision works with teams of young people based in schools and colleges. Starting with the question, "What do you want to change?" teams are supported to investigate issues relevant to their lives as local and global citizens. Led by their own ideas and supported by staff and trained volunteers, teams plan and implement a project to tackle whatever issue they are passionate about - learning to be young leaders and gaining vital employability skills along the way.

For further information please contact Emma Bird
T: 0207 253 1677 E: emmab@envision.org.uk W: envision.org.uk



Achievements

Becoming role models within the school

The team has engaged and worked with their school at every stage, inspiring younger students to learn more and make a difference.

Raised £1500 for St George's Crypt

The team raised money through sponsorship for their sleepout, as well as raising the profile of the homeless shelter.

Inspired their school

As a direct result of their workshop, over 200 young people were inspired to turn old clothes into new ones.

Awarded Leeds Team of the Year 2010

Skills and Knowledge Gained

Presentation skills

After presenting workshops and hosting the fashion show, one student wants to go to become a fashion journalist or presenter.

Team work

Although there were loads of ups and downs during the course of the project, the team persevered and got there in the end, sharing their ideas and work load brilliantly.

Mending and making

They learnt how to mend and edit old clothes to make them into something newly loved.

Homelessness

Team members attended Envision Youth Forum on Homelessness learnt about issues homeless people in Leeds face and what services are offered to them.

Testimonials

“My highlight was the sponsored sleep out because it helped me realise firsthand the difficulties homeless people encounter everyday.”

Carmel, EPIC Team Member

“Envision is a programme that gives you a platform to make new friends and gives knowledge about issues that greatly affect others and that which may affect you in the future.”

Mutsa, EPIC Team Member

“Envision is a great way to do what you want to change the way people think.”

Shivani, EPIC Team Member

For further information please contact Emma Bird

T: 0207 253 1677 E: emmab@envision.org.uk W: envision.org.uk

