What is Care Home Friends and Neighbours: Intergenerational Linking?

We're an exciting national social action project that is linking together young people aged 5-14 from schools and youth organisations with older people living in care homes across England.

By giving younger and older people the opportunity to connect together and share in new experiences, learning, stories and laughter, we hope to strengthen community connection and deepen understanding of each other and how we all live together.

How do I get involved?

To discover more about Care Home Friends and Neighbours: Intergenerational Linking in Bradford led by The Linking Network, please contact:

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- Website: www.thelinkingnetwork.org.uk
- Twitter: @Linking_Network

Care Home Friends and Neighbours (Care Home FaNs)

This project is one of the many community engagement projects running under the national programme of Care Home FaNs, led by My Home Life England. Care Home FaNs helps to connects care homes for older people to their local communities.

To find out more, visit www.carehomefans.org



Linking young people with older people living in care homes















twitter: @intergenLinking e: intergenerational.linking.1@outlook.com www.carehomefans.org/intergenerational-linking

Care Home Friends and Neighbours: Intergenerational Linking is currently the largest intergenerational project running in England!

How does it work?

We support a school or youth organisation to link with a local care home for older people. There's no cost to be involved! We will help you to plan a programme of activity that creates meaningful intergenerational friendships between your younger and older people. They will also have the freedom to choose the direction of their project. Over time we hope strong intergenerational links will form. We aim for these to become embedded and for you to continue these new friendships far into the future.

Project benefits:

- improves young people's confidence
- develops young people's leadership skills
- expands worldviews
- reduces isolation
- connects care homes to their communities



The project in Bradford

The Linking Network is running your local Care Home FaNs: Intergenerational Linking project in Bradford.

The Linking Network supports schools and communities to develop a positive, cohesive ethos through linking programmes, classroom resources and teacher training.

We're really excited to be able to support schools, youth groups and care homes with Intergenerational Linking, which forms another strand to our linking work. The fundamental aims of the link are to facilitate sustainable, meaningful relationships between the generations, which fits into TLN's key questions of 'Who are we?' and 'How do we all live together?'

Through Intergenerational Linking, young and older people will share stories together, creating meaningful relationships between generations, even in a time of social distancing. We are keen to ensure that this project feels manageable to those involved and whilst it is important that each link is unique, TLN will aim to provide as much support as possible. The #iwill principles of high-quality youth social action have been incorporated into the programme, allowing for the voices for of both young and older people to be heard alongside creating a link that is manageable to all involved and sustainable.

See the project so far: twitter: @intergenLinking www.carehomefans.org/intergenerational-linking



Project partners and funding:

Care Home FaNs: Intergenerational Linking is supported nationally by a partnership between two organisations that brings together expertise with young people and schools and older people and care homes:

- My Home Life England is an international evidence-based, practiced informed initiative that promotes quality of life and delivers positive change in care homes for older people.
- The Linking Network supports schools and communities to develop a positive, cohesive ethos by helping children, young people and adults to explore identity, celebrate diversity, promote community and champion equality.

This project is funded through the #iwill Fund. The #iwill fund supports the #iwill campaign, which aims to make involvement in social action a part of life for as many young people as possible. The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport are each investing £25 million seed funding to create the #iwill Fund. The Dunhill Medical Trust is acting as a match funder for this project and awarding grants on behalf of the #iwill Fund.