

The BAIT Project

Our pilot project was in August 2012, funded by Benoit, and delivered in partnership with The BAIT Project. The aim of the project was to use angling as a tool to prevent young people becoming involved in crime and anti-social behavior.

I wanted to keep the background info brief, but this is such inspiring stuff, I'd really encourage you to read further...



The Bait Project mainly operates in the Bestwood, Basford and Bulwell area, working with referrals from local agencies such as the police and social services, accepting young people aged 11-18 years that reside in Nottingham. The Bestwood, Basford and Bulwell vicinities are all deprived areas with high rates of youth unemployment and anti-social behaviour (ASB).



BAIT runs numerous angling activities, which include local and national trips, residential trips, trips to shows and giving demonstrations at local events. Whilst on the residential trips, the young people are taught life skills such as cooking and cleaning, as such life skills are usually missing from young people who come from dysfunctional homes. They also run several AQA course for the young people to obtain qualifications. The young people also run projects to aid the environment, such as

litter picking, re-developing scrubland and building wild animal habitats. They also run activities for local clubs such as the scouts and youth clubs. They have also been working with a project which aims to reconnect fathers with their estranged children, providing a common interest activity in which they can both participate, whilst spending time together.

Whilst on the project, the young people must not become involved in crime and anti-social behavior and they must attend regular education. All the young people on the project are mentored and, if necessary, signposted to different support agencies, based on their needs.

Results have been very positive, with experienced participants acting as role models for newer referrals. Just wonderful outcomes.



For more information about the BAIT Project, please see their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/baitproject>