



Lewisham Youth Offending Service


NEWSLETTER

Parents/Carers/Guardians Edition

August 2020 Issue no. 002

Welcome to the second issue of Lewisham Youth Offending Service (YOS) newsletter. In this edition we will cover a variety of topics from equality, YOS Summer Project and the measures we are taking to keep our building COVID-19 safe.

We would like to thank everyone who gave feedback on the first edition, this has been really valuable and we hope you enjoy the new changes. Please continue to provide us feedback and any suggestion of features for future newsletters.

 020 8314 7474

Youth Offending Service: Becoming COVID-19 Safe

The YOS has gone through a Health and Safety inspection to make sure that it is safe for staff, you and your child/ren to be in the building. When visiting, at reception you will be offered hand sanitizer and face masks for your protection.



(Right to Left: Reception Entrance, Seating Area & Session Room)



Fight Against Racism

- ❖ The YOS want to acknowledge the importance of the recent global and local protests in support of equality for black people.
- ❖ As a service we are committed to our duty to listen, recognise, learn and challenge all forms of racial injustice.
- ❖ We will be hosting a virtual meeting for parents/carer's to meet with our YOS managers and staff in October to share our plans for an Anti-Racism Plan and vision to better support black young people and families in our service.



Municipal Journal (MJ) Awards

In some exciting news, Lewisham YOS has been shortlisted and are national finalists for the prestigious MJ Awards (the local government equivalent of the Oscars!!).

This is to acknowledge the team's dedication to supporting our young people to thrive within their communities.

The event takes place on Friday 2nd October 2020, we're keeping our fingers crossed and will be sure to update you in October's edition.



Lewisham YOS Summer Programme

Your child/ren cannot afford to miss out on the YOS Summer Experience:

Social Media; building the next generation of entrepreneurs, online safety and more.

Red Table join in discussions about subjects important your young people.

StopWatch; Interactive session to address stop & search and give young people the skills and confidence to handle interactions with the police.

PLUS an opportunity for parents/carers to watch the session live via video link to increase your knowledge and awareness.

Preparing for my future; CV building, Interview techniques, role play and 121 careers advice.

Creative Friday; An opportunity to create an art piece and slogan for young people's booklet and 121 social distance sports (*Forster Park SE6*).

When: 3rd-21st August 2020

Where: Face to Face & Virtual experiences for 13-17 year old

For more information and enquiries please call and ask to speak to Yvonne Henry on 020 8314 7474



School Meal Voucher

If you are a family whose income has reduced/stopped due to the coronavirus crisis, your child/children may now qualify for free school meals.

The school will arrange for you to receive food vouchers (if eligible).

You must be on the following benefits to qualify:

- ❖ Universal Credit
- ❖ Income Support
- ❖ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance/Employment
- ❖ Support Allowance
- ❖ Child Tax Credit

For more information please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools>

Staying Safe & Being SMART

When traveling on public transport (to the YOS), please remember to wear a mask to protect yourself and others.

Not doing so (without medical reason) could lead to £100 fine!



Parent/Carer Survey

We would like to ask you a few questions to help us understand the impact of Lewisham Youth Offending Services on you and your child.

Please take part in this short 5 minute survey and enter a draw to win £20 in Amazon vouchers.

Thanks for your help to improve our service!

<https://forms.gle/4AZdwfb3Ba86T33q7>

Summer Food Fund

Schools can also support these pupils with a £90 voucher to cover the 6-week holiday period.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-summer-food-fund>

TOP TIPS



Notting Hill Carnival is going virtual on 30th & 31st August. Enjoy Carnival spirit from the safety of your home. (Check official website for link)



Watch the Perseids light up the night sky. A popular meteor shower during August which peaks on the 12th. Very high possibilities to see a shooting star.



Make the most of the summer, enjoy a socially distance picnic with loved ones. (Local Parks; Beckenham Place, Mountsfields, Blackheath & Hilly Fields)