

INSPECTOR NEWS



ISSUE 2 - SPRING 2017

Welcome to the second edition of the Inspector News, the Young Inspectors newsletter. The Young Inspectors programme is two years old and we wanted to let you know what we have been up to in the last 2 years, how you can become a Young Inspector and where you can find out more information. We hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and look out for the 3rd edition.

Young Inspectors

In the past 2 years the young inspectors have carried out 23 inspections.

- So far there have been 1,360 Positives, 840 Recommendations and 109 Improvements to services.
- They have raised £351 for Safe at Last Charity and £667 for Rotherham Children's Hospital through a cake sale and raffle. Altogether £1,018 has been raised.
- They had been invited to the Cinderella Pantomime in Sheffield. They also went to Nando's for their Christmas get together.
- They have visited Lincolnshire Young Inspectors and hosted a visit for them at Clifton Park.
- Developed a Facebook, Twitter page and a website for the Young Inspectors.

- We got the Highly Commended at the CYPNow Awards 2016/2017 for 'The Youth Volunteering and Social Action Award' which is a national award.
- In February half term the young inspectors carried out an inspection of the Clifton Park Museum and Rotherham's Children's hospital.
- They have taken part in interviewing for managers within Children & Young People's Services.
- The young people met with Sharon Kemp the Chief Executive of Rotherham Council and also Ian Thomas, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services, to let them know what's been happening in the programme and what's happening next.
- In the upcoming months we have some very exciting inspections.
- The young people will be taking part in the Armed Forces Day on Saturday 24th June 2017.



How Does It Work?

Once an inspection has been agreed Young Inspectors choose which elements of a service they are going to inspect and how. Young Inspectors can take part in mystery shopping exercises, surveys, reality checks and observation activities. All inspections take place during school holidays and where possible.

inspections are unannounced to ensure the Young Inspectors gain a true reflection of that service

Once an inspection is complete all the data and evidence captured is pulled together into a report and an action plan is produced by the inspected service outlining how they are going to address the issues raised by the Young Inspectors.

The action plan is monitored to check progress against recommended improvements and a revisit takes place 6 months after the initial inspection. Inspecting Council services in this way ensures that young people and their families are actively listened to and their views and opinions are acted upon to make improvements to their life and services.

For more information on how you could get involved contact our Young Inspector Co-ordinator on:
01709 823917 / 07798581232
email: RotherhamYoungInspectors@rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council 



Our Young Inspectors make a significant contribution towards improving the quality of the services we deliver and provide to children, young people and families in Rotherham. They are an integral part of our improvement journey and continue to shine a light on what's working well and what we need to improve. They are fantastic to work with and never fail to impress and amaze me with their professionalism and enthusiasm to make a positive difference.

David McWilliams - Assistant Director; Early Help and Family Engagement

Our Young Inspectors have had an amazing year and their achievements have been recognised nationally. Ofsted has also praised the quality of their work. In Rotherham, we value the views of children and young people and therefore the inspectors play a key role in ensuring we get the services we deliver right. I look forward to reading future inspection reports and more importantly, taking action on any areas for improvement identified

Ian Thomas – Strategic Director; Children and Young People's Services



Their passion and commitment to this work is very clear and I really commend them for it. It is vital that the services we provide in this town are fit for purpose, and that the young people are listened to. So often I see services developed in isolation without even consulting the people they are for. This is clearly wrong and you are doing a lot to address that. I am glad that when the inspectors identify weaknesses and report them – action is taken. My grateful thanks to all the young people for making our services stronger.

Sarah Champion –Member of Parliament for Rotherham

Want to find out more about the programme?

Contact our Young Inspector Co-Ordinator Ashlea Harvey:

Email: RotherhamYoungInspectors@Rotherham.gov.uk Telephone: 01709 823917/Text: 07798581232

You can also find out more on our social media sites and our website:

 <https://www.facebook.com/RotherhamYoungInspectors/>

 <https://twitter.com/InspectorsYoung>

 <http://www.rotherhamyounginspectors.co.uk/>