

why is me2 needed?

Many disabled young people lead very active lives but continue to be quite isolated in their own communities. Many do not have friends locally and simply do not often get the chance to mix with their non-disabled peers. Mainstream inclusion prepares them for independence, whether it be in education, employment, training or in life generally. The inclusion of disabled young people into mainstream youth provision is not about charity or sympathy. It is about equality, fairness and the right of a particular group to have access to opportunities that are available for all young people. These are core youth work values, yet inclusion of disabled young people in mainstream activities is still rare.

me2 focuses on the social model of disability. This means that we are concerned with the social barriers that prevent disabled young people from participating fully and equally in mainstream youth and leisure services. This is in contrast with the more commonly offered medical model which focuses on the young person's disability as the reason why inclusion is not possible.

Kent Youth's me2 programme focuses on:

Attitude: Awareness, knowledge and commitment

Access: Creating a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment

Action: Making it happen!

Kent Youth

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Gillingham, Kent ME7 5HR

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Email me2@kentyouth.org

www.kentyouth.org

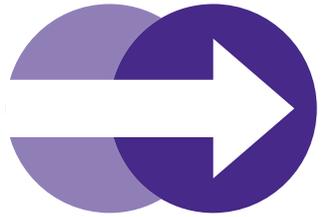
Charity Registration No: 1063975

Kent Youth operates throughout Kent and Medway. Our programmes and outreach work actively help children and young people achieve positive outcomes in their lives. We provide training, advice, support, activities and resources to over 200 affiliated youth clubs, groups and organisations as well as delivering face to face programmes. Over 18,000 children and young people and 1,500 adult leaders are involved in our affiliated clubs each week. We believe all children and young people have undiscovered potential and we aim to unlock that potential.

The me2 programme is supported through a variety of different funders including BBC Children in Need and KCC Aiming High for Disabled Young People

Kent Youth

me2



do you
have a
disability or
additional
need?

aged
13-19

bored
of doing
the same
things



want to try something new?

is me2 right for you?

Would you like to go out to a youth club, without mum, dad or teachers?

Do you want to go to a youth club with the support of someone your own age?

Would you like to make some new friends?

if the answer's yes, read on



what's it all about?

Kent Youth's me2 project brings disabled and non-disabled young people together. me2 provides young people with training, enabling them to support disabled young people to achieve inclusion into mainstream youth clubs.

We match you with young people of a similar age and find out your interests. We will then try to find a youth club near to where you live. Your mentor will help and support you into the club and set weekly goals with you to achieve. Once you are ready, your mentor will slowly withdraw their support.

if this sounds like you the me2 project may be able to help you!

For further details contact our me2 Coordinator on 01634 281841 or email me2@kent youth.org



referral form

Details of the Person making the Referral

Name _____

Agency (if applicable) _____

Position (if applicable) _____

Relationship to Young Person _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel (Daytime) _____

Mobile _____

Email _____

Details of the Young Person to be Referred

Name _____

Date of birth _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel (Day) _____

Mobile _____

Email _____

School/College _____

Postcode _____

Name/type of disability _____

Please return the completed form to:

Kent Youth
me2 Inclusion Programme
Youth House
Marborough Road
Gillingham, Kent ME7 5HR

Tel 01634 281841 email me2@kent youth.org

- me2 is not a befriending or respite scheme and so both enthusiasm and commitment to the project is needed by parents/guardians to ensure the process of the young person's inclusion is supported.
- This form must be completed by either parents/guardians or a member of staff from the referring agency.
- This form registers interest in a local project. It does not guarantee a place.