

Sporting Futures

SAFER FUTURE COMMUNITIES
Empowering local voluntary & community partnerships

Since 2004, Sporting Futures has been working throughout Derbyshire to reduce anti social behaviour and youth crime through sport.

Using sport as a tool, the organisation targets and engages young people in deprived communities in the county through positive activity sessions, including football, dance and various other sports.

Sporting Futures also deliver leadership and other awards to young people, including the Community Sports Leader award, which they deliver on behalf of Sports Leaders UK. This award provides young people with transferable life skills and the opportunity to volunteer and coach in their local area.

In addition, they run a one-to-one mentoring scheme aimed at young people who need extra support, and organises various events including the annual Derby 10K and the Street Games regional festival.

In the last financial year Sporting Futures has worked with 2,387 young people over 2,228 sessions, delivering 367 qualifications and working with 42 young volunteers, who delivered 521 training sessions between them.

By engaging these young people in positive sporting activity, they are now no longer involved in anti social behaviour and youth crime, in some cases simply because they are too exhausted to do so, and gaining the skills and confidence to change their lives for the better.

Sporting Futures also works with Youth Offending teams, taking on referrals for both their coaching sessions and mentoring scheme.

The biggest lesson Sporting Futures has learnt is how important it is to work closely with communities and the young people within them, to discover what activities they want to participate in.

They have found that young people often want to play rather than be taught coaching skills, so Sporting Futures lets the games teach the skills, ensuring everyone is included and continue to be engaged by having fun.

Originally called Sport 2000, Sporting Futures is funded through a range of sources including Comic Relief, StreetGames UK, the Derbyshire Building Society and local councils.

For further information on Sporting Futures visit www.sporting-futures.org.uk.

“If it wasn’t for Sporting Futures, I think I would have been arrested or pregnant by now.”

18-year-old attendant of Sporting Future dance session