



Finding a way forward
with young people and
their families

keycommunity.org.uk

KEY NEWS

Autumn Winter 2024



Key recognised for positive workplace

We are delighted to share that we have received an outstanding report from Investors in People.

The report highlighted staff's passionate commitment to helping young people lead independent, successful lives; praised Key as an inspirational entity; commended the supportive and team-oriented culture, and acknowledged the substantial progress made since the organisation's initial accreditation in March 2021.

Top Stories

Investors in People: Latest rating

Key Prevention: Tackling Emotional Based School Avoidance

Key Support: Teaching young people good tenant etiquette



Christmas Appeal launched



Prevention

Our Prevention and Intervention team is receiving an increasing number of requests for support from families struggling to cope with Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA).

EBSA is a term used to describe children and young people who experience persistent challenges in attending school, due to negative feelings, such as anxiety.

EBSA - Local Impact

Data from schools in 2021 indicates that South Tyneside has experienced increases in absenteeism that align with national trends.

In secondary schools, 6% of students were classified as regular non-attenders, with 72% of those cases attributed to anxiety.

This coincides with a national rise in persistent absenteeism (defined as attendance below 90%) which has nearly doubled to 22.3%.

Research shows that “EBSA adversely affects children’s educational attainment, health, social functioning and life prospects and warrants early intervention before a pattern of absenteeism becomes entrenched”.

Collaboration is Key

The causes of EBSA are multifaceted and each student’s experience is unique.

Understanding and addressing the underlying factors through a holistic, supportive approach is essential in helping students overcome barriers to school attendance and promoting their emotional and academic wellbeing.

Collaboration between schools, families, and professionals is key to developing effective intervention strategies.

We have joined a local authority-led working group to enable better multi-agency approaches to supporting young people with EBSA, including developing a new model to promote reintegration into settings to provide positive outcomes.



Key Support

For homeless young people, resettlement involves taking on the responsibilities of a tenancy when unusually young, often without the experience of a secure family home.

Our Resettlement and Retainment team helps young people maintain housing stability by developing the skills and experience they need to sustain a successful tenancy..

Being a good neighbour

For any young person, the transition to independent living is not easy, and it can be extremely challenging for those who have been homeless.

Learning to be a good neighbour, and tenant, is vital, not only to comply with tenancy agreements, but so they and those around them can enjoy living in a safe and secure environment.

Positive engagement with neighbours can bring younger tenants in contact with others living in their community and help relieve loneliness and isolation.

Good neighbour relations can challenge the stereotypes that a community might have about them, foster better relationships and contribute to community cohesion.

Rights and responsibilities

Tenancy support helps young people understand what being a 'good neighbour' entails: being reasonable and tolerant of different people's views and lifestyles, and considering how their own behaviour affects others around them.

Our team are also there, of course, to support and advocate for the young people in the event of any problems or disputes that might arise during their tenancy, for example, if they should they be on the receiving end of any anti-social behaviour or harassment from any neighbouring tenants.



Key to Life Foodbank

Christmas Appeal 2024

We want to 'Make Christmas Special' for those who may have little food in the house, or nothing under the tree on Christmas morning, so they know that someone is thinking about them and that they are not alone this festive season.

Spread some seasonal cheer!

Donate financially

Online: keycommunity.org.uk/donate

By cheque: Please make payable to 'Key Community' and post to: Key Community, 116 Baring Street, South Shields, NE33 2BA.

By bank transfer: Please transfer to 'Key Community' at Unity Trust Bank, Sort code: 60-83-01, Account no: 20071815.

By text: Text YULE followed by any whole pound amount between £1 and £20 to 70480 to give that amount (e.g. text 'YULE5' to donate £5). Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.

Scan the code to get help with Xmas

Families with kids aged 16 and under only.
Deadline 12pm Fri 6 Dec.



04/04

How your donation made a difference Christmas 2023



497 children and young people received gifts on Christmas morning



240 families were helped to have a more magical Christmas



350 emergency food parcels distributed to people facing hunger and poverty

“ Thank you so much for your generosity; it's made me feel so emotional that my kids can now have a good Christmas. ”