



flourish
AWARDS
2023

**Enabling Norfolk's
Children and Young
People to Flourish**





flourish

AWARDS

2023

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An introduction from Sara

On 25th September 2023, I was delighted to be able to open the first ever Norfolk Flourish Awards event, celebrating some of the outstanding contributions being made by organisations, teams, businesses and individuals supporting Norfolk's children and young people to flourish.

It was a fantastic evening, compered by an amazing group of young people who did a wonderful job. I was incredibly proud of them all, so well done and thank you again to Alex, Cerys, Heidi, Travis and Will.

The Flourish Awards received nearly 300 nominations for over 160 organisations, teams, projects and individuals, reflecting the huge breadth and impressive quality, commitment and care happening across the county to support children and young people. It was an almost impossible job to select finalists and winners, and I know our panel of young people and parent carers deliberated long and hard in choosing the finalists to receive an award on the night.

Flourish has become a framework for collective accountability, a unifying ambition, and a call for action across organisations in the county. Since launching the Flourish Pledge initiative in May 2022, we have seen remarkable engagement from over 200 organisations and teams, ranging from small charities to large corporations, all committing to do one thing over the course of the year as part of helping children and young people across the county to flourish.

I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate everyone who was nominated for an award, and all those who haven't been nominated this year but who are working so hard for our young residents, for everything they do. And of course, well done to the finalists and Award winners!

I would also like to extend my thanks to the sponsors and supporters who made the Flourish Awards ceremony such a successful event.

These Flourish Awards, the first of many, showcased how individuals, teams, projects, and organisations, regardless of size, are making a difference and helping to make Norfolk a place where all children and young people can flourish.

Sara Tough

Chair of Norfolk's Children and Young People Strategic Alliance, and Executive Director of Children's Services





Award Nominees

A huge thanks to all Award Nominees for their outstanding contributions to supporting Norfolk's children and young people to flourish

- Autism Support Team (EPSS) – Norfolk County Council
- Avian Dance School
- Baby Keep Warm Bag – Norfolk Postnatal Classes Workshops and Support
- BMA Group
- Boom Young Carers – The Benjamin Foundation
- Brave Futures
- Breckland Youth Advisory Board
- Build Together Families Programme – Cup-O-T, Breckland YAB and Breckland Council
- Bure Park Specialist Academy
- #CARE and other projects – Hopton CofE Primary Academy
- Central Housing Team (John Drake House) - YMCA Norfolk
- Chapel Green School, Old Buckenham
- Children, Young People and Families Service – Vision Norfolk
- Children's Advice & Duty Service – Norfolk County Council
- Children's Community Nursing Team – NCH&C
- Community Ed CIC
- Crime & Choices Programme – Norfolk Magistrates Association
- Crucial Crew Programme – Norfolk Fire & Rescue
- Children & Young People services - NANSA
- Children & Young People Team – Pandora Project
- Children's Community Continence Service – James Paget University Hospital
- Dance Estelle
- Darren Venn – Framlingham Earl High School
- Dawn George – Freethorpe School
- DFN Project SEARCH & other work – Great Yarmouth Borough Council

Award Nominees

- Di – Framlingham Earl High School
- Dragons Trampoline Club
- EAL/EDC Team – Norfolk County Council
- Early Childhood and Family service (West & Breckland)
- eLearning team - YMCA Norfolk
- Family Services Team - NANSAs
- Flourish Fridays – Chapel Green School
- Forest School for Life
- Foundation and Progression Team – East Coast College
- Foxwood Short Breaks residential unit – Norfolk County Council
- Future4Fairgrounds
- Gem's Boutique – Wymondham High Academy Trust
- Hamlet Charity
- Hempnall Play Park Community Group
- Hempnall Playgroup & Crafty Kids & Library
- In Care Team 3 - Great Yarmouth – Norfolk County Council





Award Nominees

- Inclusion Department – The Garage Trust
- Isabella’s Dance and Musical Theatre Company
- Day of Welcome / Schools of Sanctuary
- Karen Jackson – Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- Kick The Dust – Norfolk Museums Service & Partners
- Kimblewick Equestrian Centre
- King’s Lynn North Guiding District
- Kip McGrath
- Leadership team – Harleston Guides Unit
- Learning and Engagement Team – Norfolk Museums Service
- Leaving Care Team – Norfolk County Council
- Life Ready team - YMCA Norfolk
- Mancroft Learning
- MAP Advice Team
- Meet Up – The Benjamin Foundation
- Ministry of Imagination
- Morgan’s Academy of Dance
- Muddy Puddles Nursery
- Multi Agency Child Exploitation Team – Norfolk Constabulary
- Multi-Cultural Society – All Angels Federation
- Munchkin and Me
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit team – Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- Norfolk Adoption Service – Norfolk County Council
- Norfolk and Waveney Healthy Child Programme – Cambridgeshire Community Services
- Norfolk Family Support Team – AG Family Support
- Norfolk In Care Council (NiCC)
- Norfolk Portage Therapy – Norfolk County Council
- Norse Catering
- Norwich New Roads Hub Team – Norfolk County Council
- Norwich School of Hair & Beauty
- On Track/Unity – The Matthew Project



Award Nominees

- Open Road West Norfolk
- Osiris Technologies LTD
- Out and About – Langham School
- Paediatric Community Nursing Team – Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- Paediatric Mental Health Service – Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital
- Parent and Family Support – John Grant School
- Parenting Apart Centre East (PACE)
- Pastoral Support – Aylsham High School
- The Papillon Project – Framlingham Earl High School
- Playful Parents
- Preparing for Adult Life Team – Norfolk County Council
- Princes Trust Team Programme - NFRS
- QEH Play Team – Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- Rebecca Savage - South Norfolk Family Help Team 3 (NCC)
- Restitute



Award

Nominees

- Retro Skating Academy
- Robyn Fisher – St Clements High School
- ‘Rudham Ward’ nurses and medical staff – Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- Sally Butlin - Paediatric Matron - QEH
- SEMH Team – Aylsham High School
- SENSational Families
- Sheringham Woodfields School (short breaks)
- Shipdham Spitfires
- Solace Partnerships
- South Wootton Pre-school
- Specialist Resource Base (Oceans) – Caister Primary Federation
- Sporle Pre-School
- Squirrels Reception Class – Heather Avenue Infant School
- St Edmunds Society
- Starfish team LD CAMHS – NCH&C
- Suffield Park Nursery
- Targeted Youth Support Service (Charmaine Goldsmith) – Norfolk County Council
- The Boost project
- The Bread Kitchen
- The Decision-Making Programme – Norfolk Constabulary
- The ‘First Nature’ Campaign
- The Lighthouse Alternative Provision – Trinity Solutions
- The Lotus Education Outreach Programme – Lotus Cars
- The Patch – Dandelion Education Ltd
- The Rose Project – The Magdalene Group
- The SMILE Project – Lola Stafford Consulting Ltd
- The Swan Youth project
- The Treehouse Café
- The Walled Garden at Little Plumstead
- The Wherry School
- Time Childcare
- Toshi Ryu Martial Arts

Award Nominees

- Transforming Care Navigators – Integrated Care Board
- Twinkle’s SEN Activity Days CIC Group
- The Lotus Education Outreach Programme – Lotus Cars
- The Patch – Dandelion Education Ltd
- The Rose Project – The Magdalene Group
- The SMILE Project – Lola Stafford Consulting Ltd
- The Swan Youth project
- The Treehouse Café
- The Walled Garden at Little Plumstead
- The Wherry School
- Time Childcare
- Toshi Ryu Martial Arts
- Transforming Care Navigators – Integrated Care Board





Award Nominees

- Twinkle's SEN Activity Days CIC Group
- UASC Service – Norfolk County Council
- Victorious Living
- Virtual Work Experience – Norfolk Constabulary
- Visible Festival - NANSA
- Waveney Foodbank
- Wellbeing Project – MTM Youth Services
- West Norfolk Deaf Association
- Whitlingham Adventure – Norfolk County Council
- Wingfield Consultants
- Wise About Words – Norwich Theatre/Wensum Trust
- Young Carers work – Woodlands Primary Academy
- Youth Clubs – YMCA Norfolk
- Youth Engagement Team/CYP team – Norfolk Constabulary
- Youth in Mind team - MAP
- Youth Pledge for Employers Project – Norfolk County Council
- Youth Work Team – MAP
- Youth Work Team - MTM Youth Services



Family & Friends Winner

Dawn George (Freethorpe School)

PE teacher, primary school teaching assistant, fund raiser for Friends of Freethorpe School and leader of 1st Freethorpe Guides, Dawn's contribution to helping children and young people flourish over many years led to her nomination. Dawn's, now annual, 'flash dance' where every child in the school is taught a dance (which naturally Dawn choreographs and mixes the music for!) and then performs together – is something that children that have left the school still talk about!





Family & Friends

Finalists

Twinkle's SEN Activity Days CIC

Twinkle's SEN are a Norwich based group of parents who come together for support and to organise activity days in the company of like-minded families facing similar challenges. They enjoy days together, take comfort in each other's company and build an invaluable support network including weekend residentials, days on the Norfolk Broads, Alpaca walks and picnics, and World Autism Day meet-ups.

West Norfolk Deaf Association

West Norfolk Deaf Association (WNDA) is a local charity providing support to Deaf children and their families, Deaf adults and elders, and people with acquired hearing difficulties in west Norfolk. Operating across two sites in Kings Lynn and Downham Market as well as in the community and residential homes, WNDA provides a range of comprehensive services for people of all ages and all levels of hearing loss, all designed to help its community live independent, fulfilled lives.



Family & Friends

Highly Commended

Norfolk Adoption Service

Being adopted is a significant part of somebody's story – but it is only part of their story. The Norfolk Adoption Service were nominated for their dedicated and consistent efforts to promote ongoing contact between children placed for adoption, and their birth family members including brothers and sisters living elsewhere. Thanks to the commitment of these families, and the support of the professionals involved, children are now able to build relationships with both their adoptive and birth families, bringing the parts of their story together.

All About Mum

All About Mum, based in Cromer's Merchant's Place, is a face to face group for mums who have given birth during the pandemic, with babies 12 months and under. There for new mums to share experiences and chat to professionals – the group's friendly and warm environment led to its nomination. The peer led group has adapted to the needs of the community and also offers a monthly breastfeeding clinic, baby weigh and runs regular workshops with its family practitioner focusing on early years development and mothers' wellbeing.

Forest School for Life

Forest School for Life in Wymondham is one of the only outdoor settings in the UK where babies can have fun and play whilst thriving, unrestricted by walls, in nature alongside their older peers. Promoting the role of nature, giving the youngest children opportunities to explore and championing a child-initiated pedagogy. Within a healthy and inspirational curriculum, children are immersed in a permaculture philosophy, planting, harvesting, and cooking their own fresh vegetables. The forest school elements teach children to become resilient and capable learners who show curiosity and compassion for nature and empathy for others.





Learning Finalists

Learning & Engagement Team – Norfolk Museums West

Norfolk Museums Service's learning team delivers award-winning programmes for schools and all ages in ten museums across Norfolk. It's Learning and Engagement team – West led by Rachael Williams has been nominated for its work with schools in the borough.

Squirrels Reception Class – Heather Avenue Infant School

Squirrels Reception class at Heather Avenue Infant School, Hellesdon, is the team of class teachers Miss Barley and Mrs Houston and class staff Mrs Barnard, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Bennett, Mrs Lowe, Mrs Blyth and Miss Allen. This super Reception class team have been nominated for an award.



Learning

Highly Commended

Jo Mixer – John Grant School

John Grant School is a complex needs school in Caister on Sea and primarily supports pupils living in Great Yarmouth and surrounding areas. Over the past 3 years, the school has invested significantly in its family support provision. This has been led by amazing Parent Support Advisor Jo Mixer. Jo is an invaluable source of support for the most vulnerable families. She has made positive working relationships with colleagues working in local community services such as food banks, the local early help hub and social care services. Thanks to Jo new services are now being delivered, the impact of which has been phenomenal and in some cases life changing for families with pupils attending John Grant School.

All Saints School, Lessingham

All Saints School is a small independent school in a rural setting in North Norfolk, with a Junior and Senior department welcoming children from the ages 7 to 16. The vast majority of students in school have had negative experiences in previous settings and have struggled to settle and achieve. Nominated by many of its parents, the school was highly commended as a place that cares and understands children, always puts their needs first, supports and nurtures. The staff really care about the children, looking after them and catering to their every need.



Learning

Highly Commended

Mancroft Learning

Zoë Brown, a dyslexic, dyslexia specialist, founded Mancroft Learning and made it her mission to help children and young people who face dyslexia related difficulties in their learning. Zoë's aim is to help children access the educational support they need, feel good about themselves and confidently enjoy their education. She does this through full Dyslexia Assessments and ADHD Screenings. As a parent herself, Zoë understands the importance of effective education for children and with proper support and understanding, children with dyslexia can thrive and succeed. Her mantra: dyslexic individuals have incredible minds and brilliant thinking skills, and Zoë is passionate about helping them harness their super strengths.

Opportunity Winner

The Hamlet Charity

The children and young people who access The Hamlet Charity's services have a range of profound disabilities and complex health needs, some of whom are in receipt of palliative care. Their illness, disability and/or sensory impairments mean that they require additional help and support in their day-to-day lives. Each year The Hamlet Charity supports over 500 service users and their families. It believes people with disabilities deserve to be valued for who they are. By providing recreational, educational, and social opportunities, children and young people can be themselves, explore choices, and reach their full potential – a life without limits!





Opportunity Finalists

The Boost Project – King’s Lynn

The Boost project in King’s Lynn provides a range of activities and opportunities for skills and jobs for young people. Linking demand from local employers and opportunities in local sectors with those needing to reskill. Boost supports young people to feel inspired, build skills, or help develop careers. A person-led project, it seeks to provide the right support package – from helping support confidence to get into work, training, mentoring or formal qualifications.

Open Road West Norfolk

Open Road is a King’s Lynn-based modern, well-equipped automotive workshop and construction training facility that helps students who may have been left behind by mainstream education. A safe place of learning that is both fun and exciting. The attraction of motor vehicles and practical construction skills are used to capture young people’s attention and interest. Open Road drives a culture of hard work, where application, positive attitude and teamwork are acknowledged and rewarded, ultimately leading students to industry recognised qualifications.



Opportunity

Highly Commended

Kimblewick Equestrian Centre

Established and licensed by Breckland Council in 1998, Kimblewick is run by the Moore Family. One of the oldest and most respected equestrian centres in Norfolk the centre provides expert tuition to riders of all abilities. Nominated and Highly Commended for its impact as an alternative educational provision the work with marginalised, vulnerable young people really impressed our judges. Spending time with horses, and in the care of its dedicated staff, children and young people have had their lives transformed by Kimblewick Equestrian Centre.

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13th Norwich Rainbows Brownies

The Girl Guiding Norwich Division covers the city centre of Norwich and is made up of 6 Districts. There are 11 Rainbow units, 19 Brownie units, 13 Guide units, 4 Senior Section units and we have one joint Rainbow and Brownie unit. This is 845 young people getting amazing experiences from 218 volunteers! Highly Commended this year, The 13th Norwich Rainbow Unit in Lakenham District, is run by an amazing team of volunteer leaders offering a superb range of opportunities and experiences to young children in a safe and nurturing environment.

Understood Winner

Norse Catering

Norse Catering, part of the Norse Group, provides schools in Norfolk with freshly prepared, locally sourced food that positively impacts health, nutrition, and wellbeing. Norse Catering delight in attending school council meetings to talk about menus, food, and nutrition. They also attend parents' evenings and provide menu tasters to engage with the wider school community. This allows discussions around healthier choices and provides context for children about how they create menus to ensure they are nutritionally balanced. They truly believe children and young people are at the heart of school meals, so it is vital they are part of Norse Catering's decision-making.





Understood

Finalists

Breckland Youth Advisory Board

The Breckland Youth Advisory board works with young people and professionals to bring about change in their communities. The aim of the YAB is to identify issues that impact on young people and to play a strategic role in meeting these needs through the commissioning of services, lobbying on behalf of young people and influencing decision makers.

Norfolk in Care Council

Norfolk In Care Council (NICC) is a space for all care experienced young people supported by Norfolk Children's Services to share their voice about the service they receive, help shape improvements and connect with other care experienced young people. Three levels of engagement are available (as agreed with young people): 1) step-up social forums, informal and welcoming space to meet others and be part of consultation and participation 2) focus groups, topic based participation, task and finish groups, various opportunities based on interest e.g. producing Scoop magazine, interview panels, attending corporate parenting board workshops, sharing experiences with prospective carers at skills to foster 3) change makers, the highest level of engagement, co-production focus, young person initiated.



Understood

Highly Commended

Shipdham Spitfires

Shipdham Spitfires, in Breckland, is open to both boys and girls from Shipdham and the surrounding area and offers traditional Scouting for the 21st Century. With a range of activities to engage, stimulate and contribute to the community the scouts were Highly Commended for providing back to basics camps (where mobile phones were banned!), litter picks around the village, cleaning the local war memorial - where the 5 scouts were thanked with a beautifully hand written letter and sweets to share from the church vicar. They have even brought back Bob a Job where members do various jobs for their family and friends and earn some money for the group. Fabulous stuff.

Resilience Winner

MAP Advice Service

The MAP Advice Team works with young people aged 11 to 25 across Norfolk. They deliver their work in three Advice centres: Norwich, Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn. They offer both Generalist and Mental Health Advice through their same-day drop-in service, whilst also providing a range of additional interventions including 1:1 work around issues such as debt and benefit appeals, dedicated sessions for young parents including baby massage and ante-natal classes, a Stay & Play drop-in service for young parents and their children, and a Mediation service working with young people around their relationships with family.





Resilience

Finalists

Solace Partnerships, UASC services

Solace Partnerships provides a range of multi-disciplinary social work assessments, family support, assisted living assessments for local authorities and court, and semi-independent and independent living services for over 16s. Its UASC service provides semi-independent accommodation to asylum seeking children.

The Bread Kitchen

The Bread Kitchen in Great Yarmouth was set up to meet the needs of local people who, for a variety of reasons, have not been able to achieve their full potential in traditional educational settings. The Bread Kitchen is an established community of learning which engages, educates and empowers. Courses include horticulture/ gardening, animal care, employability, confidence, maths, english, an Alternative Provision (working with local schools to support children and young people needing additional or alternative provision), an opportunity to join a friendly team of gardeners on their community allotment to learn a range of new skills, and children's activities including toddler group, homeschool group and a youth club.



Resilience

Highly Commended

ACE (Action Community Enterprises CIC)

ACE provide education, training and support through a range of different projects, courses and study programmes to children, young people and adults. With a vision to do the very best it can for each and every one of its participants so that individually it makes a difference, and collectively changes society for the better. Set up as a Community Interest Company in 2011 by Louise Gardiner, who is passionate about education being accessible to everyone, no matter what their barriers. Her passion for this is rooted in her own struggles in school due to undiagnosed dyslexia, which she did not allow to hold her back and, with specialist support, went on to successfully finish her education as an adult.

Isabella's Dance Academy

Isabella's Dance Academy is a Dance/Musical theatre company based in Great Yarmouth owned by Isabella Weller. Highly Commended for the work she does to improve the confidence of hundreds of children she teaches every week Isabella works tirelessly to provide unique opportunities to perform both individually and as part of a group. Isabella has now opened across the east coast including Gorleston, Caister and Scratby and has had to introduce waiting lists because her lessons are so popular. Nominated to ensure she is recognised for all she does and will never give herself credit for, Isabella's Dance Academy has made a huge difference to children's lives.



Resilience

Highly Commended

TBF Meet Up

Meet Up, on Thetford's Redcastle Furze Estate, is one of The Benjamin Foundation's youth provision and community services. It aims to tackle significant community wellbeing issues, inequalities, mental health, and social problems. Established in 2010, it especially seeks to raise young people's aspirations and ambitions and support them in reaching their life goals. Meet Up works with local people to improve their life situation by strengthening their skills, self-esteem, health, and resilience via a range of personal development, learning and support groups, and one to one support services. It also brings other agencies in to provide support and activities, as well as signposting people to specialist advice and support services. Meet Up's goal is to enable positive, lasting, and sustainable change in the lives of the local communities it serves.

Individual Winner

Morgan's Academy of Dance

Morgan's Academy of Dance, Gt. Yarmouth is a dance and performing arts school focused on achieving exceptional standards of dance, acrobatics, singing and acting. They offer specialised, inclusive opportunities to dance for individuals of all ages and abilities to encourage everyone to perform to build confidence, self-esteem and positive mental awareness and offer a warm and positive environment for every student to achieve their goals. It prides itself on a 'family feel' as well as receiving the highest quality students results.





Individual Finalists

Visible Festival – NANSA

VISIBLE is a project launched by the Norfolk and Norwich SEND Association (NANSA) for 2023 and beyond. Its first Neurodiversity Festival took place at The Forum on 31st March and 1st April 2023. During the festival a range of guests hosted free discussions and workshops. There was also a range of information stands facilitated by local agencies, charities, and projects, offering services, and championing a greater understanding of neurodiversity. Its stated aims: Together, we can influence change countywide. Together we can listen and we can learn. Together we can be heard and we can be VISIBLE!

A Day of Welcome/Schools of Sanctuary

A Day of Welcome is the only Refugee Week event specifically orientated for schools. The initiative supports teachers to organise a day of solidarity and learning that contributes to building a culture of welcome, understanding and compassion for refugees and asylum seekers. Founded and developed by Norfolk Schools of Sanctuary in partnership with Anglia Ruskin University, A Day of Welcome started in Norfolk but is now a UK-wide event. This June, 532 schools came together for the day, including 182 Norfolk schools. A Day of Welcome provides webcasts, teaching resources and guidance that aim to improve refugee education, shine a light on little known refugee histories and build understanding of the experiences and contributions of refugees and asylum seekers.



Individual

Highly Commended

Cultural Society, All Angels Federation

At St. Michael's Junior School in Bowthorpe, staff members Sarah and Corri started The Cultural Society in 2020 noticing the school had children from many different cultures and faiths. They wanted these children to celebrate their difference, and at the same time help other children to learn about difference. What started as a project to raise the profile of different faiths and cultures within the school grew to include providing physical resources, lesson plans and support to teachers, organising for other schools to join them for zoom quizzes (written by the children in Cultural Society) on special days, and creating resources and training for other schools to increase their knowledge of race, diversity and equality.

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Future 4 Fairgrounds

Future 4 Fairgrounds are a group of six female Showmen who joined forces in 2020 out of a growing concern for the situation faced by the fairground industry at the time and the impact on the Showman community. Together establishing Future 4 Fairgrounds with the aim of reaching out to a wider audience. Celebrating their history, raising awareness of their unique community and safeguarding its future. Their shared heritage is at the heart of what they do. Highlighting the community and what it means to be a Showman by launching a global initiative called World Fun Fair Month. This now takes place annually in September. Highly Commended for their work to support children and young people in their community by creating an opportunity for better representation and recognition through education.



Safe & Secure Winner

The Matthew Project – Young People’s Team

The Matthew Project empowers young people and adults to overcome drugs, alcohol, and mental health issues so they can live their lives more fully. It offers specialist services for both family members impacted by others’ substance misuse and for veterans. Its Young People’s offer is based on Unity and On Track. Unity is a Norfolk-wide support for young people affected by substance misuse. The service works with under-19s misusing substances, and those affected by somebody else’s substance use. On Track supports 15 – 24 year-olds living in Norfolk to overcome barriers to move closer to getting into education, training, employment, or volunteering.





Safe & Secure

Finalists

Crucial Crew (Norfolk Fire & Rescue)

Crucial Crew is a multi-agency education project led by Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service. With the support of various partners, Year 6 students across the county are engaged and delivered safety messages in a fun and interactive way through hazards presented in a safe environment. Its aim is to help children stay safe and learn valuable life skills. Crucial Crew sees young people as its best communication tool for spreading safety messages: young people are encouraged to share safety messages with family, friends, carers, and the wider community and take forward these life skills into the future.

Targeted Youth Support Service (with a special mention of Charmaine Smith)

Trusted relationships are the key to well being and safety. The Children's Services' Targeted Youth Support service (TYSS) works with young people who have been identified as being vulnerable to or experiencing exploitation and or serious youth violence. The service is made up of specialist youth workers who deliver intensive 1:1 support as well as group interventions in the places where young people choose to spend their time. Youth workers provide creative opportunities and safe space for young people to explore their identity , community and experiences. This helps them to increase their confidence, develop interpersonal skills and think through decision making and potential consequence.



Safe & Secure

Highly Commended

Magistrates in the Community

Magistrates in the Community is a nationwide initiative, and part of the Magistrates Association, with the aim of demystifying the legal system and educating the wider community about the work of the local courts. Its Norfolk arm was Highly Commended for its “Crime and Choices” programme, taking talks and mock trials to high school children in Norfolk to teach them about the consequences of committing crime and giving them the power to say no and make the right choices. A labour of love for its writer/facilitator Sam Tisshaw the programme is now being embraced across many Norfolk high schools. Sam and her colleagues delivering this programme are making a valuable contribution to the lives of children and young people in Norfolk.

Police MACE team

The Norfolk Constabulary MACE (multi-agency child exploitation) team helps put young people at the centre of serious violence prevention. It forms a key way in which the force is addressing its serious youth violence and child exploitation challenges and works alongside multi-agency partners to offer interventions and support for vulnerable young people, their families, and the wider community. A central feature is a focus on building trust - trusted relationships and face to face contact with the child/young person enables advice, support, reassurance and direction to keep them safe from harm. The team was Highly Commended for the work being carried out and its determined effort to work with children who are both victims and offenders of exploitation.

Transforming Care Navigators – Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System

Transforming Care Navigators are a team of education, health and social care professionals experienced in working with children and young people with autism and/or a learning disability. A Navigator might offer support via visits at home, in the community or at school/college/university/a place of work. The service helps explain care and support options, enabling informed decision making, and children, young people and families to talk to professionals and attend meetings. It supports access to services, provides information, and aims to reduce the risk of admission to mental health hospitals for children and young people in Norfolk and Waveney.





Healthy Finalists

Toshi Ryu martial arts

Based in Hunstanton Toshi Ryu offers martial arts instruction to both children and adults. Martial arts teach both the skills and confidence to defend yourself, if necessary. However, the process of learning martial arts has many benefits for adults and children beyond self-defence. These benefits vary across the martial arts disciplines. Some martial arts focus on balance and flexibility, while others focus on strength, and yet others focus on mindfulness. However, all martial arts can lead to physical, mental, and emotional growth.

Cup-O-T

Cup-O-T: Wellness and Therapy Services is a not-for-profit mental health service based in Breckland. It provides mental health interventions and wellness sessions to young people and adults. Its social purpose is to make mental health support accessible at an early stage, to support young people to achieve their potential, to make mental health support accessible in rural areas, to increase mental wellness in communities.



Healthy

Highly Commended

SEMH team– Aylsham High School

Aylsham High School is a caring, supportive and inclusive comprehensive school, a member of the Aylsham Cluster Trust and part of the Aylsham Learning Federation. Its SEMH (social, emotional and mental health) team works across the high school cluster primary schools to give children, young people and their families the opportunity to overcome a wide range of social, emotional and mental health issues. Highly Commended for its work to address an influx of referrals over the last year, the team works tirelessly to make sure that transition to high school is smooth and children with known and sometimes unknown difficulties are supported appropriately. The team provide support and training for parents and staff and educate young people around their own mental health and well-being. In doing so they help ensure that young people with severe mental health issues are able to flourish and achieve their full potential.



Healthy

Highly Commended

Playful Parents

Playful Parents is a 'Stay & Play' group with a difference. The group was created as a collaboration between community organisations 'SoulShine' and 'Child's Play Works'. It is based around principles of free play for children and gentle/positive parenting approaches for adults. It offers the support of a community of other like-minded parents and care-givers and each week provides opportunities for children to take part in child initiated, open-ended, free play. Soon to become 'Child at Heart' and moving to an outdoor venue in Tuttington near Aylsham, the group offers opportunities for nature play, gross motor play, imaginary play, creative play, dramatic play, messy play and many more. The 'Child at Heart' community, both in-person and online, provides peer support and deeper responsive parenting approaches by a qualified play therapist and parent coach. Its aim is to help parents build their relationship with their little ones and raise children that thrive.

