



2022

WILTSHIRE YOUTH PRIDE 2022

Natasha Robbins, Child and Youth Voice Team



Salisbury Youth Pride Event

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Purpose of event:

After consulting with young people from the LGBTQ+ community in Wiltshire, it was concluded that there were not enough opportunities for children and young people who identify as LGBTQ+ to socialise within their community.

As a result of this, The Wiltshire Youth Council wanted to hold an event for children and young people for LGBTQ+, the goals for this event were.

- To gain the views and Voice of Children and Young people both in and out of the LGBT community.
- To offer support to children and young people coming out or transitioning.
- To Explain what LGBTQ+ is and what it means
- To support young people who have family members or friends in the LGBTQ+ community.
- To show support and celebrate Equality and diversity

Event Planning

The Child and Youth Voice Team took the lead in organising this event and teamed up with members from our full Wiltshire Youth Council. The Wiltshire Youth Councillors created a sub-group of young people that wanted to volunteer and support the day. The Child and Youth Voice Team also linked up with Caroline Corbin who was the operations project manager for Salisbury Pride to support with the planning. Caroline allocated a section in the family zone at Salisbury Pride for us to be able to create and hold a Youth pride.

Overview of Activities

On the day, we had 3 members of staff and 8 youth volunteers who facilitated a range of activities that included.

- A Voice Zone- this included creative ways of getting feedback from participants, for example we brought a large pride flag (tag the flag) for participants to write on, a washing line that people can peg comments on, spray chalk for young people to express themselves with and we also handed out information leaflets about support in the community.
- We supplied information on what support is available for the family members of those who identify as LGBTQ+.

- A flag hunt competition - pride flags were hidden around the site; young people were given a crib sheet where they mark off when they found a flag and wrote down what its meaning was. When the sheet was completed and returned it was entered into a raffle to win a gift voucher.
- Bracelet making- young people had the chance to make a bracelet that showed how they identify within the LGBTQ+ community e.g., transgender was blue, pink and white.
- The Fire Service brought their pride fire truck and interacted with young people on the day.
- We also brought outdoor garden games- hula hoop, bubbles, stack the cans, toss the beanbag which many of the younger children enjoyed.

Whilst at the event two members of our Wiltshire Youth Council were interviewed by BBC radio.

Emily and Millie said “I think the main message is to not care about what anyone else thinks just do what you want to do and love who you want to love”

They also explained that there was not enough support for some people, and they wanted to support people of all “genders, sexualities and whoever they love”.

Throughout the course of the 4-hour time slot, staff and volunteers engaged with approximately 180 young people and their families.

Outcomes

- We were approached by a LGBTQ+ support worker who was inspired to create a support group with young people in the community and therefore new opportunities for them.
- Children and young people expressed themselves and came together to celebrate Pride.
- Our youth volunteers used their voice in the media to spread support for young people.

With a special thanks to, Wiltshire Youth Council, Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue, Salisbury Pride and everyone else that supported this fantastic event.

