

Project Proposal – Leadership Awards at DanceBlast Monmouthshire

Aim

To equip a group of young people with leadership skills in dance by completing a Sports Leaders UK Young Leader Award with the guidance and support of a specialist tutor.

Overview

DanceBlast is a charity based in Abergavenny that offers a wide range of dance related opportunities to children, young people and adults in the community. Many of the classes and workshops delivered by the charity are supported by volunteers and this project aims to recognise and upskill these volunteers by equipping them with nationally recognised qualifications in leadership. This would become a rolling programme so that volunteers are encouraged and supported in their journey as leaders and dance teachers of the future.

The [Young Leader Award](#) is a great introduction to leadership, giving young people aged 11 and over knowledge of how to organise and lead small activities that can be used as a part of uniformed organisation, community club or sports club sessions. The Young Leader Award aims to help learners develop leadership skills such as organisation, communication and teamwork, as well as helping to build confidence and self-esteem as they take on responsibility of leading their peers and younger children.

The award can be tailored to suit the context of the learners and in this instance the focus of the award would be dance. The tutor is a dance education specialist with a background in secondary education and school leadership who has delivered qualifications from this provider over an extended period of time.

Higher levels of qualification link to this award and the aim is to introduce [Dance Leadership Award Level 1](#) to participants in the year following the first phase of delivery. Dance is one of the most popular physical activities for teenagers in the country and is a fantastic way for them to develop and hone vital leadership skills. This course is particularly successful as a tool to improve students' physical health and wellbeing via an alternative option to sport. The aim is to create a group of confident, engaged Dance Leaders who can act as positive role models for other young people and help with classes and productions while building their employability skills.

The work of DanceBlast enables children and young people to develop their skills in creative dance and so leadership is a fundamental part of how they communicate and execute their ideas. The wider benefits of this experience link to the impact of leadership skills in school, social and work experience settings also.

Plan

Phase 1 - The Young Leaders Award is designed to be delivered over a short period of time and we intend to deliver the content in one day during the school holidays to make it accessible as possible. The day will be based at the Dance Centre in Abergavenny to enable participants to complete the award in a specialist dance environment where they will have access to the resources they need. Completion of the award means that participants will gain a certificate from a nationally recognised awarding body and mean that they can access higher levels of training in leadership at future opportunities.

Phase 2 – Dance Leadership Award Level 1 is a more comprehensive qualification which takes 26 hours of delivery time plus additional hours for learners to complete tasks and preparation work. Each learner will independently deliver a 60 minute session to complete

the course in addition to the successful submission of a leadership workbook. The work produced is verified by Sports Leaders UK via a remote hub before accreditation is awarded.

These courses offer our young people a pathway into leadership which utilises their passion for dance. The community around each learner will benefit from their skills and knowledge and the work of DanceBlast is enhanced by their ability to support the classes and workshops that are at the core of the role of the charity.