





Youth Development Programme 2026 Information

Gateway programme for Year 12 and 13 students in level 3 Youth Leadership.

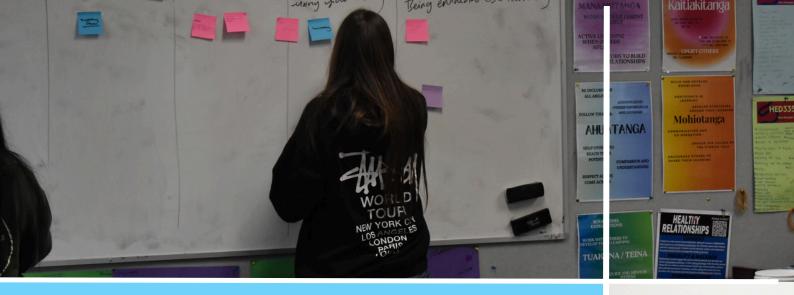
Updated October 2025





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Kaupapa:

Youthline Wellington's Youth Development Programme (YDP) is a Gateway programme in Level 3 Youth Leadership. Driven by the principles of Mana Taiohi, YDP hopes to support young people to fuel and share their mauri, explore their whakapapa, hononga (connections), and the world around them. We hope to support this journey through the principles and values of YDP, which are whanaungatanga, manaakitanga, mātauranga, and whai wāhitanga. We offer the chance for personal growth, reflection, confidence building and even professional development! Students can gain school credits by learning more about youth development, and themselves.

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[I have enjoyed] how easy going YDP is and how understanding Lana is of our other commitments or external influences that affect participation. The games are fun and the content is explained well. Learning at YDP doesn't stress me out!

-YDP 2025 participant

I remember for the first several weeks of YDP, going around the circle during open and closing round made me feel so anxious since I felt scared to speak in the group. But that has changed now, and in general, I feel a lot more confident speaking up!

-YDP 2024 participant

I have gained so much more knowledge around impacts of trauma to the brain and how people work. I also enjoy how we learn about hollistic ways of viewing things, I think that's really important!

-YDP 2023 participant



Programme Basics



Porirua Group:

Whitireia Polytechnic, 3 Wi Neera Drive, Elsdon, Porirua

Wellington Group:

Evolve Youth Services, James Smith Building Corner Cuba & Manners Street, Wellington



Wednesdays during Terms 2 and 3 with the option to continue into the Term 4 Extension Option.

Term 2 - 3 Dates: <u>22 April - 23 Sept</u>

Extension Dates: <u>14 Oct - 25 Nov</u> (or 2 Dec - TBC)



Porirua Group:

Wednesdays, 1pm to 3pm

Wellington Group:

Wednesdays, 4pm to 6pm



Programme Basics Continued



In each group there will be up to 20 young people and up to 5 Youth Development Volunteers who will facilitate the programme, along with the Programme Coordinator who is also the Assessor (marker of assessments)



YDP Terms 2 and 3

35 credits in Level 3 Youth Leadership

YDP Extension Option, Term 4 (optional)

An additional 9 credits. Student's who complete all three terms of the programme can earn 44 credits total and their full

Level 3 Certificate in Youth Leadership!





Who is this programme for?

Our programme is for Year 12 and 13 students who are interested in any professional pathways that may involve working with people and communities in empowering, strengths-based and mana amplifying ways (e.g., pathways relating to Youth Work, Education, Mental Health, Support Work etc.).

Our programme focuses on Youth Work values, skills and practices, though many of the skills we explore can be transferred to other professional pathways and life experiences.

Ideal participants are those who can commit to the programme, attend weekly sessions, get their assessments completed on time, and communicate effectively. Not being able to do the above may result in your school being notified.

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Unit Standards

Unit Standards are completed throughout the programme through written assessments, verbal assessments, and practical work

In the Youth Development Programme, we complete the following unit standards:

16857, Youth Development Project

Level 3 | Version 7 | 10 Credits Assist in planning, developing, delivery, and evaluation of a youth development project

32202, Mana Taiohi Framework

Level 3 | Version 2 | 5 Credits

Demonstrate and apply knowledge of the Mana

Taiohi framework for youth work

28542, Professional and Ethical Behaviour

Level 3 | Version 3 | 5 Credits
Demonstrate knowledge of, and apply professional
and ethical behaviour in a health or wellbeing
setting





Unit Standards continued

16850, Support a young person in a youth work relationship

Level 3 | Version 7 | 5 Credits
Support a young person to meet their needs and goals in a youth work relationship

16856, Groupwork theory and leadership styles

Level 3 | Version 7 | 4 Credits

Describe groupwork theory and leadership styles in a positive youth development setting

32418, Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Level 3 | Version 2 | 6 Credits

Describe the application of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and its benefits, in a health or wellbeing setting

YDP Extension Option unit standards on next page



YDP Extension Option!

All students complete the unit standards stated above, and can then opt into the YDP Extension in Term 4 in order to complete the FULL Level 3 Certificate in Youth Leadership

Unit standards offered in the YDP Extension Option include:

28522, Human Development Theory

Level 3 | Version 2 | 6 Credits

Demonstrate knowledge of human development theory for a health or wellbeing setting

22257, Profile a Youth Culture in Aotearoa

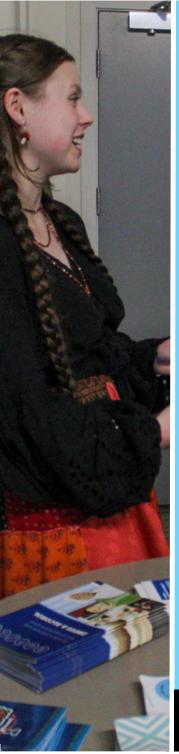
Level 3 | Version 5 | 3 Credits

Learn about youth culture in Aotearoa, challenges
faced by young people, and risk and protective
factors that may impact young people.









Creating a Youth Event!

As part of the programme, YDP participants will work with their programme peers to plan, develop, deliver, and evaluate a youth event on a topic of their choice. Other young people outside of the Youth Development Programme will participate in this event.

YDP participants will then be Peer Leaders at the event and will have the opportunity to practice all the amazing Youth Development skills they have been learning about through the programme!

Students do need to be present during the project to achieve this unit standard, and must have completed pre-project roles and an evaluation after the day.













What to expect!

Our learning largely happens through games, activities and group korero as well as the practical experience of shaping a youth event and participating as a Peer Leader on the day of the event.

In order to complete assessments, young people can write their answers or verbally share their answers with a Youth Development Volunteer who will write their answers down.

Along with these components we aim to weave in opportunity for self-reflection, growth and group connection.

In 2026, we will be implementing that if students do not hand in a due assessment, they will not receive the next one until the outstanding work has been completed and handed in.

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Cost

We use unit standards from Careerforce for this programme. Schools will receive separate invoices from Careerforce and Youthline Wellington for the different services they provide.

All costs below are including GST.

YDP Fees (Terms 2 and 3)

Youthline Wellington Fee: \$402.50/student

Careerforce Fee: \$170/student

Total: \$572.50

YDP Extension Option Fees (Terms 4)

Schools are charged the above YDP fees at the start of the programme. They will receive additional invoices at the end of Term 3 for the students that wish to continue with the YDP Extension Option.

Youthline Wellington Fee: \$115/student

Careerforce Fee: \$60/student

Total: \$175

If you have any questions regarding these costs, don't hesitate to contact the Education and Youth Development Coordinator: youthdevelopment.wgtn@youthline.co.nz



How to get involved



Applications for YDP 2026 will open Monday 20 October 2025 and will close on Friday 27 March 2026

Applicants must complete an online application form provided to them by their school, and they must also be approved.

For more information and the application link contact Youthline Wellington's Education and Youth Development Coordinator at youthdevelopment.wgtn@youthline.co.nz

We can't wait for our Youth Development Programme 2026 to kick off!

Need support?

Free call 0800 376 633

Free text 234

Email talk@youthline.co.nz

The Helpline is also now available on WhatsApp and Instagram!



