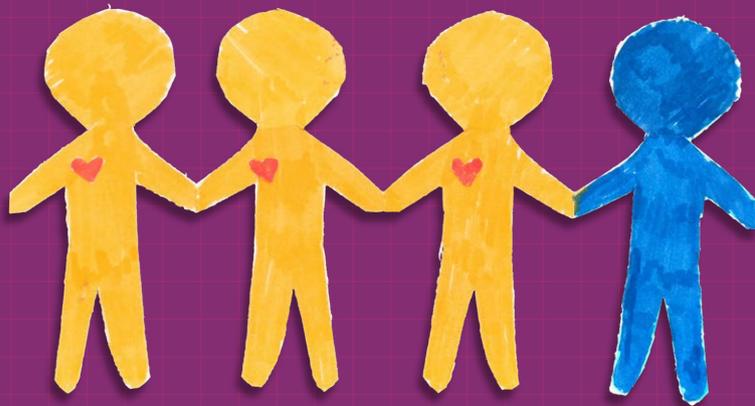


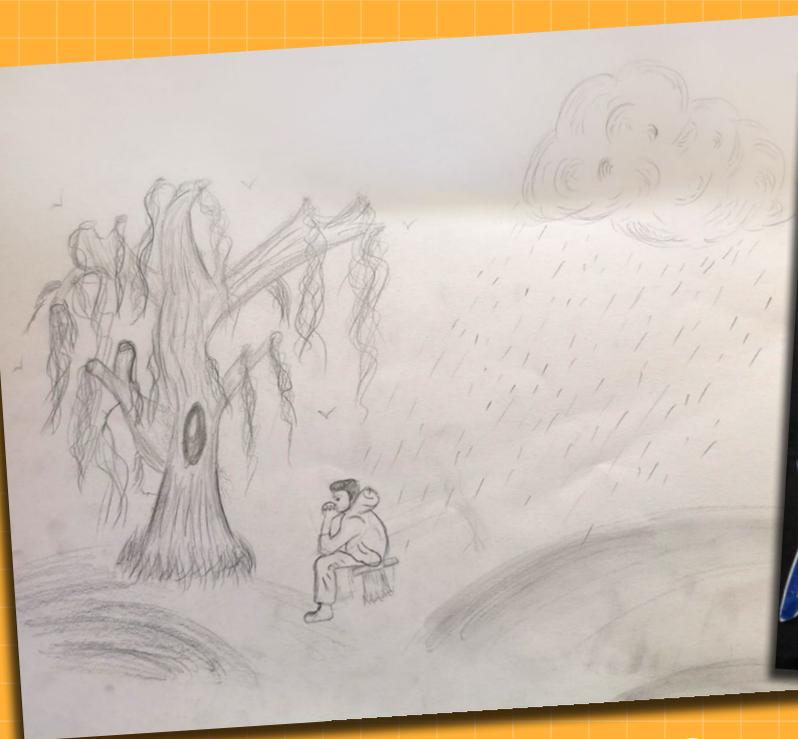


# MAKING COMMUNITY SPACES YOUTH-FRIENDLY

Our project has been looking closely at **youth loneliness** and how community spaces can be more youth-friendly

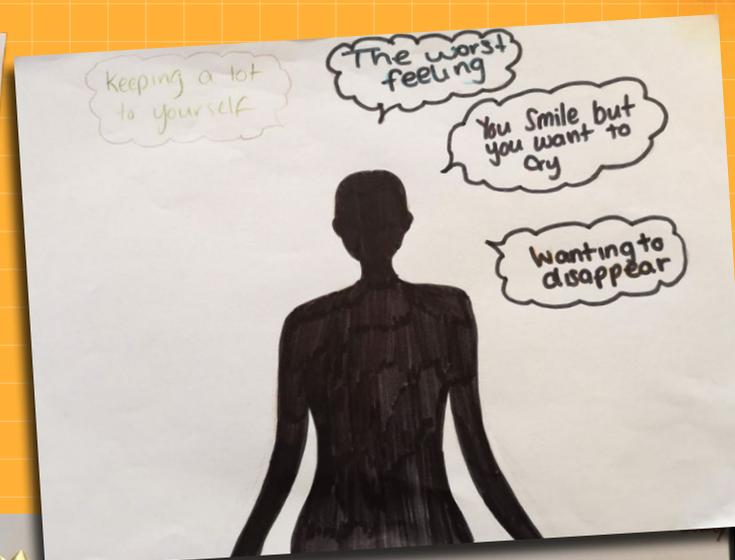
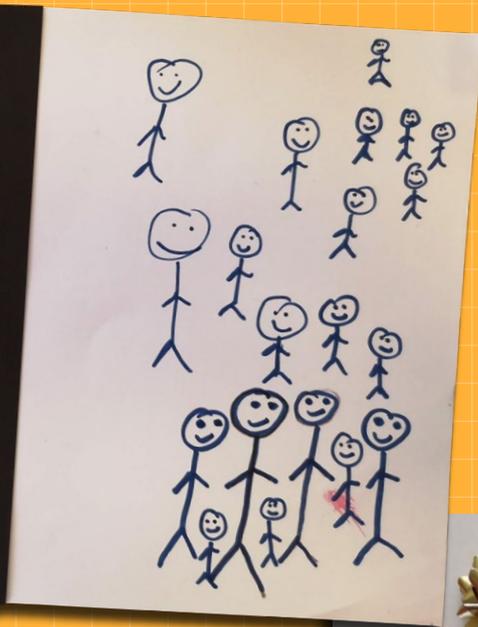
It was brought together by 10 young people from Brighton, UK in Spring 2019, supported by the TDC - Willow Carney, Abigail Coomber, Madison Cox, Georgina Francis, Chelsea Hancott, Fadila Mokrane, Charlotte Pemberton, Taylor Reilly, Harry Tilley and Rhiannon Williams. We thought about what barriers there can be to accessing places and what can be done to make young people feel at ease and encourage them to attend. This document shows what can be important to young people to help community spaces be more youth-friendly. You can use the audit we made to assess and improve your community space.





Our project:

# YOUTH LONELINESS



you can be surrounded by people, but still feel totally alone



“BLACK

+

Brown

Harry T - 2019 ”

To me loneliness means when I am away from my friends or family for too long.

NEGATIVE  
THOUGHTS CAN  
MAKE YOU FEEL  
LONELY

I sometimes feel alone at family gatherings because I can't be myself around them.

Loneliness to me ...  
feeling as if you have  
no-one.

“THOUGHT'S  
CROWDING YOUR  
MIND!”

I feel most alone when I have no one to talk to. When people feel lonely they can also overthink and feel really depressed.

# IMPORTANT AREAS TO THINK ABOUT

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## 1. Accessibility

- Is the building accessible for multi use?
- Disabled, low budget, special-needs etc.  
Having accessibility in the space will ensure more people coming to the space no matter their living situations

## 2. People

- Young people would like nice friendly, trained staff
- Polite, friendly, respectful mix of gender & age.  
Having friendly staff is important to make young people feel safe and comfortable going into a space

## 3. The space

- Young people would like a large space with different areas
- One to ones, quiet/loud, smokers, good condition, easy layout/easy to find way around  
It is important because it will include a range of different people to be included in youth activities. Depending on what mood you're in, there's always a place or area for you to go

## 4. Atmosphere

- The atmosphere is how the place feels as you walk in
- Welcoming/warm, youth friendly safe  
Having a good atmosphere is important to make young people feel confident and happy while walking in and spending time there

## 5. Activities

- Having a range of activities would keep young people from being bored
- Outdoor activities/indoor – do young people have an input?  
Having activities for young people is important because it keeps people from being bored and gives them things to do

## 6. Online presence

- Young people would like an online presence to make it easier to find
- Pictures, social media, directions, contact details.  
This is important because not all young people will know how to find the space  
Having social media will make it easy for people to contact the youth workers if they needed to talk to someone or if parents would like to contact the space



# YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY SPACE AUDIT

## 1. ACCESSIBILITY

Questions	Yes	Partly	No	Comments / Actions for improvement
Is the building accessible for all types of people (e.g. disabled, low budget)?				
Is the building easy to find?				
Is there public transport nearby the community space?				
Do the times of clubs work for young people?				
Do you need to register before going to a session?				

## 2. PEOPLE

Questions	Yes	Partly	No	Comments / Actions for improvement
Are staff friendly and respectful?				
Have you got a fair gender split of staff?				
Is there a mixed age between staff?				
Do staff know young people's needs?				
Are staff trained?				
Are new or shy young people introduced to other friendly or compatible young people?				
Do youth clubs encourage young people to be friendly and supportive of newcomers?				

## 3. THE SPACE

Questions	Yes	Partly	No	Comments / Actions for improvement
Is the space safe?				
Are there different areas (e.g. for 1:1s, large space for activities, quiet areas)?				
Is there space for a large amount of young people to come in (e.g. 20 people)?				
Is there an area for smokers?				
Is the space in a good condition?				
Is it easy to find your way around (e.g. clear layout & signs)?				

