

Breakaway at Youth Alive Trust – 2020/2021 Report

Breakaway Attendance - July 2020 - June 2021

Teens	Booked	Attended	Sick	Away	Average Booked	Average Attended
13/07/2020	40	31	7	0	40	32
14/07/2020	40	33	6	1		
15/07/2020	40	31	9	0		
16/12/2020	24	20	4	0	24	20
17/12/2020	24	20	4	0		
18/12/2020	24	20	4	0		
27/04/2021	49	42	2	5	49	42
28/04/2021	49	42	2	5		
29/04/2021	49	41	3	5		
Intermediates						
15/07/2020	41	35	6	0	41	33
16/07/2020	41	33	4	4		
17/07/2020	41	31	7	3		
21/12/2020	39	34	4	1	39	34
22/12/2020	39	33	4	2		
23/12/2020	40	36	3	1		
28/04/2021	53	46	7	0	54	44
29/04/2021	54	43	11	0		
30/04/2021	55	44	9	2		

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We ran six Breakaway programmes in that 12 month period, three for intermediates and three for teenagers. They were all a big success and there were so many positives that come from these programmes; new friends are created, young people doing something for the first time, stretching themselves, team building, doing activities with people who aren't just your best mates, spending time with role model leaders who take time to speak words of encouragement over young people and give extra grace when needed, plus more. 100% of people who completed surveys' in the past year said they were satisfied or very satisfied with both the programmes and the leaders. Most said there was little they would change and if you log onto the Youth Alive Trust facebook page, you'll see albums for each of these programmes showing all the activities and smiley faces of the young people who took part. Here are just some of the comments from the surveys:

Female, 14yr old, Marian College:	Thank you so much for a great time. Can't wait for the next programme!
Female, 14yr old, Papanui High:	This was an awesome programme and I really enjoyed it!!
Male, 13yr old, Shirley Boys:	It was really fun and I want to do it again.
Male, 15yr old, Mairehau High:	Thank you for the last couple of days. I had fun!
Female, 12yr old, Queenspark:	Thanks for spending time with us and letting us do a lot of activities
Female, 11yr old, SNBS:	I love the leaders, they are super supportive
Female, 11yr old, Parkview:	Youth Alive is the best. All leaders rock. You are amazing.
Female, 12yr old, Parkview:	I love this programme. I wish my mom booked me in for longer.
Female, 12yr old Rawhiti:	Number 1!
Female, 12yr old Rawhiti:	All the leaders are very positive and nice

We partner with a variety of businesses, organisations and charities to provide experiences for the young people at Breakaway. Some are used to large groups of young people, but others take a lot of communication, systems and reassurance that it will be OK and that they will enjoy working with the young people too. In the past year we went to activities such as Hanmer Springs Hot Pools, Mega Air, SupaKarts, Velocity Blokarts, Jelly Park, Timezone – which are set up to cater for groups such as ours. Other activities worth noting was a visit from the Antarctic Hut Trust. They were one of our activity stations one day, and took two people at a time to give them a Virtual Reality experience of the Sir Edmond Hillary Hut. This was both educational and a fun experience to many of the young people. One programme, we invited local experienced stone carver, Shaugn Briggs, to work in groups of 8-10 to create something out of Oamaru stone. Everyone went home having learnt a new skill, plus the stone carving they had done, including some pretty impressive love heart candle holders. In our December programme we partnered with the Shirley Boys Canoe Polo team to give everyone an experience on the water, using their equipment and coaches. This was a new experience for nearly everyone, and we hope it will have inspired some of them to take up the sport in their high schools too. One of the highlights for the teens was a citywide game ran by Code Breakers, which set them off in teams, looking for clues to complete the tasks. This not only taught them about team work, but about their city and thinking outside of the square. The teenagers also went on a Breakaway camp to Wainui YMCA in December, where they took part in activities such as kayaking, high ropes and orienteering. The experiences pushed the boundaries of some young people and with a lot of encouragement, some overcame fears that they had not tested before.

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Breakaway fits so well into the array of other services we offer. We offer paid holiday programmes for primary school aged children who need childcare – but Breakaway gives the teenagers fun holiday activities too! We offer weekly clubs for intermediates and teen, but these stop in the holidays, and Breakaway gives us the opportunity to build on the existing relationship and invite people who come to Breakaway who haven't been to clubs to try it too. Some of our youthworkers offer mentoring to young people on our programmes, and Breakaway helps us identify young people who may need a bit of extra support and guidance. We have also referred some families for Budget Advice with Compassion Trust, who are also based in our building, and have told other families about the playgroups for pre-schoolers, and parenting courses, such as Toolbox, Wise Up and Tuning Into Kids.

The young people come from a variety of places, a majority came from the Greater New Brighton area, and already had connections with our existing programmes such as the weekly clubs, school of music and big events we run. New Brighton has a higher than average deprivation, but as an agency we already work hard to connect with the 'hard to reach' young people in our community. This happens naturally through our other services such as youthworkers in schools, who are offered paired with the more challenging young people to run groups, mentoring and other supports for. We have youthworkers in Rawhiti Primary School, New Brighton Catholic, and Shirley Boys High School, plus good connections with South New Brighton Primary and Avonside Girls. Another of our services, Mana Ake, also works a lot with the 'hard to reach' through wellbeing and mental health support, and they are also often connected to our programmes such as Breakaway.

One good example of this, is in our most recent Breakaway programme, a Mana Ake social worker from the Christchurch Methodist Mission, contacted us about getting an intermediate aged boy she was working with onto Breakaway. He hadn't been to any of our programmes before, he lives with Nan, who's not good with technology and he also has an older brother who she'd like to get involved too. The booking was made and both boys attended their separate programmes everyday. They made good connections with the leaders, made friends and joined in all the activities. The next week Nan came into the building saying she wanted to sign the boys up to everything! She told us about their life story, of the emotional and physical abuse they'd suffered, and how she's trying her best to look after them. She said they came home after Breakaway each day as if they'd "walked through a light", they looked and acted different, and she put it down to the environment we'd created. One of the boys told Nan that they'd been talking to one of the leaders about the tough background they'd also been through and had said to Nan "if they can go through that stuff, and come out good, then we can too Nan". Both boys signed up to our weekly programmes and we are also working with the social worker to help Nan with extra support too..





