

Contract Monitoring
between
Acton Community Council
and
Caia Park Partnership Ltd

Quarter 1 April - June 2026



Service delivery April- June 2026

Engagement across our Acton provision has fluctuated during this quarter. Acton Juniors recorded an average attendance of 14 young people, with a peak of 23 in one session. Acton Seniors averaged 10 attendees, with a peak of 16. This reduction compared with previous quarters is likely influenced by exam periods, school proms, and leavers' celebrations among older participants. Attendance across both sessions also appears to have been affected by ongoing uncertainty surrounding the future of Acton Community Resources Centre. Several parents have expressed confusion, with some believing the centre had already closed, which may have contributed to lower engagement during this period compared to previous years. Despite these challenges, both youth clubs have continued to provide a safe, reassuring, and welcoming environment for young people in Acton. Sessions have offered a consistent range of activities, alongside ongoing consultation with young people to shape programme content. This approach ensures the youth club remains youth centred, empowering participants to feel included and influential in decisions about their provision.

Acton Juniors youth club

Acton Juniors has remained a vibrant and lively group throughout this quarter, with attendance increasing compared with the previous quarter and several new contacts welcomed into the session. This youth club has remained a place in which young people can come and engage in fun and creative play with the support and facilitation of trusted adults. At the start of the quarter, young people were encouraged to take part in a consultation about the activities they would like to see in their youth club over the following three months. This helped ensure the programme reflected their interests and gave them a clear voice in shaping the provision.

One of the consistent features of the quarter has been the regular use of board games, such as Monopoly, which continue to be popular with the young people. These games provide an enjoyable and accessible way to develop money-management skills, emotional regulation, turn-taking, and friendly competition. They also create opportunities for young people to interact with peers they may not usually spend time with, supporting new friendships, confidence in social settings, and positive peer relationships. Games played with staff have been particularly effective as an engagement tool, creating informal opportunities for conversation, relationship building, and the development of trust and relational safety. Many of the games also promote critical thinking, problem-solving, planning ahead, teamwork, resilience, patience, negotiation skills, and the ability to manage both success

and disappointment. As a result, these playful but purposeful activities continue to make an important contribution to a positive, structured, and supportive youth club environment.



Alongside this, arts and crafts have remained a regular and valued part of the youth club offer. Activities have included drawing from staff-provided prompts, colouring, and creating imaginative pieces

within friendship groups. By providing a range of creative materials each session, young people have been able to express themselves, explore their creativity, and share ideas with others. These activities have supported confidence-building, fine-motor skill development, patience, concentration, and a sense of achievement. Working creatively alongside peers has also encouraged collaboration, positive communication, and gentle peer support, particularly when young people help one another with designs or share materials. With the warmer weather, creative activities have increasingly moved outdoors, with chalk drawing becoming especially popular. This has allowed young people to make positive use of open spaces, express themselves on a larger canvas, and enjoy relaxed social interaction in the outdoor environment.

Cook and eat sessions have also continued throughout the quarter and remain a key draw for many young people. Due to the timing of the junior session, most young people arrive straight from school with little time to eat beforehand, meaning these activities are something they look forward to each week. They regularly ask staff what will be made and



show genuine enthusiasm for preparing food together. These sessions have supported the development of practical skills, including safe use of kitchen utensils under close staff supervision, basic food hygiene, and following simple recipes. This has been particularly valuable for the younger cohort, helping them build independence, confidence, and fine-motor skills. Several young people have shared that they are excited to try the recipes at home with their parents, demonstrating how the learning extends beyond the club and supports positive routines within family life.



The cook and eat sessions have also created opportunities to reinforce

the importance of cleaning up and caring for the shared environment. On several occasions, young people have asked if they can help with the dishes or tidy the room ready for the senior session. This demonstrates a growing sense of pride in their environment and a willingness to support staff, reflecting respect for both the building and the people who use it. Encouraging

younger members to take part in these responsibilities has supported the development of key life skills, including teamwork, organisation, independence, routine, and accountability. Their enthusiasm to help shows how the youth club continues to foster positive habits, pro-social behaviour, and a strong sense of ownership within the group.



Acton seniors' youth club

Acton Seniors has continued to provide an important safe and supportive space for older young people throughout this quarter. Although attendance has dipped slightly compared with previous quarter, the group still averaged 10 attendees, with a peak of 16 young people in one session. This change appears to have been influenced by exam pressures, school proms, and leavers' celebrations. Despite this, the senior session has remained a key

social environment where young people can spend time with peers, access trusted non-judgemental adults, and talk openly about the challenges they are facing during important stages of adolescence. During this quarter, we have also begun welcoming young people who previously attended the Acton Juniors session, supporting their transition into the senior provision.

A key feature of the quarter has been the continued use of arts and crafts as a regular and well-loved activity within the senior session. For young people who are navigating different stages of their lives, including school transitions, exams, and changing friendship groups, creative activities have offered stability, routine, and a gentle way to engage with staff. These sessions have provided space for self-expression, informal conversation, and emotional regulation, allowing young people to talk at their own pace while taking part in hands-on activities. Arts and crafts have also supported confidence, concentration, creativity, and positive peer interaction, particularly when young people share ideas, encourage one another, or work alongside friends in a relaxed environment.



The session has also continued to offer a wide range of informal activities that support social development and a sense of belonging. Young people have benefited from having choice within the session, whether they prefer creative work, games, conversation, or more active opportunities. This flexibility has been important for the senior group, as it allows young people to engage in ways that feel comfortable to them while still encouraging positive relationships with peers and trusted adults. Staff have used these activities as opportunities to build rapport, check in on wellbeing, and support young people with any worries they may be carrying from school, home, or the wider community.



With lighter evenings and warmer weather, outdoor activities have become an increasingly important part of the senior youth club offer. Young people have enjoyed taking part in sports and group games that promote movement, teamwork, and

physical development. These activities have encouraged friendly competition and

strengthened peer relationships, while also giving staff opportunities to support young people in developing communication, patience, fair play, and conflict-resolution skills. Outdoor sessions have helped to create a positive and energetic atmosphere, giving young people space to release energy after school and enjoy healthy social interaction in a safe environment.

Alongside sports and creative activities, staff have introduced informal educational opportunities, including rocket-building and rocket launches. These activities have sparked curiosity and created natural links to learning taking place in school, while still feeling fun and accessible within the youth club setting. They have encouraged young people to ask questions, problem-solve, experiment, and work together, supporting confidence in learning outside of a formal classroom environment. These sessions have also provided a useful route into wider conversations about school, revision, exams, and future aspirations.



Supporting young people with academic pressure has been a significant focus during this quarter. Many senior members have spoken with staff about upcoming exams, anxiety around results, and uncertainty

about next steps. In response, staff have provided reassurance, informal guidance, and space for young people to explore their options and talk through their worries. Revision support and wellbeing conversations have helped young people feel listened to and less isolated during a period that can feel overwhelming. This has reinforced the role of the senior youth club as more than an activity-based provision; it is also a trusted space where young people can access encouragement, practical support, and consistent adult relationships during important periods of change.

As aforementioned parents and young people from both Acton youth clubs have recently expressed confusion and curiosity about the potential closure of Acton Community Resource Centre. In response, youth club staff have spoken with the young people to offer reassurance and to ensure they feel informed. The youth club's core purpose is to amplify young people's voices and empower them to express their thoughts and feelings. With this in mind, staff asked for feedback on how the possible closure of the Acton youth clubs might affect them. Young people were open and honest, sharing that they would feel "upset",

“depressed”, and “lonely” if the club were to close. Several explained that the youth club is the one place where “you don’t have to hide yourself”, with another young person saying it is the “only place I can express and be myself”, describing it as their safe space. Because the potential closure has been a key topic of conversation this quarter, staff also asked whether young people would attend sessions if they were relocated to an alternative venue such as the Memorial Hall. When asked specifically about this location, young people explained that it would be inaccessible for them. They shared that their parents would not allow them to travel that far alone, meaning they would need to be dropped off and collected. They expressed a clear preference for a venue closer to their homes.

Staff at Caia Park Partnership have continued to share feedback on the views of young people and the impact that the potential closure of Acton youth club provisions would have on them. From these discussions, initial conversations have begun around the possibility of the youth club being able to operate from Acton community resource centre within the coming months. These conversations are still ongoing, but this appears to be a positive option for supporting the young people who attend Acton youth clubs.

Case studies

Acton Juniors

J has been a regular member of our Acton Juniors session. Over time, he has shared that he experiences increasing anxiety related to school, being out in the community, and taking part in social activities. Through consistent conversations with youth workers, J has become more able to recognise and articulate the emotions contributing to these worries, and he is beginning to develop ways to navigate them. He frequently takes part in art based activities and emotional regulation tasks, such as creating squishies and using drawing to express and manage his worries. These activities have supported him in building practical coping strategies and have provided a safe outlet for exploring his feelings. Since the initial discussions about his anxieties and reduced engagement in social activities, J has continued to attend youth club regularly. The space has remained somewhere he feels confident, secure, and able to build peer relationships while sharing his concerns with trusted adults. Staff have observed noticeable improvements in his engagement with other young people, including initiating conversations, asking to join games, and offering help to new members, for example, supporting them with setting up board games. While these may appear to be small steps, they represent meaningful progress. J has shown steady growth in his confidence, self expression, and communication skills throughout this quarter, and these developments have been evident both in his interactions with staff and in his relationships with peers.

Acton seniors

C joined Acton Seniors Youth Group at the start of the quarter after moving into the area, hoping to build new friendships and find a sense of social belonging. In his early sessions he appeared quiet, nervous, and withdrawn, often sitting alone and watching TikToks as a way to manage the anxiety of being in a new environment. Youth workers supported him through consistent, gentle engagement, checking in about his day, school life, interests, and encouraging him to explore activities both within the session and in the wider community. Over the quarter, C began to respond more openly, gradually joining conversations and taking part in group activities. His confidence grew noticeably: he started joking with staff, forming friendships with peers, and eventually began bringing friends from school to the club, demonstrating a strong sense of comfort and ownership of the space. C's journey shows how the youth club has been a crucial support during his transition into a new community, providing a safe environment where he could develop socially, build resilience, and establish meaningful connections that now motivate his consistent weekly attendance.

Quarterly monitoring

Individuals attending April – June 2026

	8-10	11-13	14-16	17+	Total
Male	15	10	4	0	29
Female	16	16	10	1	43
Total	31	26	14	1	72

Contacts made April- June 2026

	8-10	11-13	14-16	17+	Total
Male	50	21	17	0	88
Female	48	56	22	1	127
Total	98	77	39	1	215