



YOUTH NEWS

ECT Youth Club term dates 2021

- 19th April term starts.
- 31st May – half term.
- 21st July- End of term.

- 1st September term starts.
- 25th October- half of term.
- 17th December End of term.



Help for Sheila

We would like to invite you to come on board! - There is a current need for a few adults willing to join in the work of our wonderful fundraiser Sheila Stapleton. Working together with her to fundraise and raise the profile of ECT. Training is available and your help would be greatly appreciated. If you would like more information please contact Anthony.

YOUR SPACE

As you may know our youth worker Anthony is also a volunteer search technician for Kent Search and Rescue. Over the last year he has seen a dramatic increase in the amount of callouts to search for people who are at the extreme end of their mental health. One such call to a young person prompted Anthony to create 'Your Space' sessions. Your Space is triage service for young people whose mental health has been impacted as a result of the pandemic and the lockdowns. Anthony has also invited West Kent Youth services to partner with ECT with this service.

Your Space is a drop in service where young people can drop in to chat through their worries or concerns with a Youth worker or be signposted to the relevant organisations who can help with their situation.

This service has been able to run throughout lockdown in a covid secure environment. Sessions started in the community room on Spittals Cross Estate but have now moved to the BRIDGES centre from Tues 9th March 2021. The sessions are every Tuesday from 4pm-6pm and will run until normal youth services can resume.

ECT Youth Club

Ever since the start of the pandemic ECT has had to adapt to running Sessions online via Zoom.

We have had cooking sessions, Bingo, Jackbox games, Quizzes, we even adapted the popular TV game show 'Would I lie to you?'.

Online attendance has gone up and down as the young people don't always get on with online platforms. We have also been able to do some great outdoor walks through this period.

We have also been able to open the doors at the club when the guidance and restrictions have allowed. This has been done in a Covid secure manner operating a 2 bubble system.

We hope that we will be able to open the club back up on the 12th April 2021.

THE BRIDGE Youth Church

The BRIDGE Youth church which was started in early 2019 has been growing, however when the pandemic hit like most other churches we had to stop meeting face to face. The service is aimed at secondary school age and has been proving popular with young people. The youngsters have on occasion lead talks and sometimes lead worship.

We hope to restart meetings as soon as guidance permits.

PULSE Camp 2021

Pulse camp is being planned at Blackland Farm for early June guidance and restrictions permitting.

Activities include various crafts and games, Movie nights, team activities including the crate challenge, canoeing out on the lake as well as the tunnel maze. There will also be some fantastic faith input all based around PULSE (Prepare, Unite, Love, Serve and Equip). Teaching and worship from various leaders.

Not to mention the great food on offer!



Prayer Points

- For all the volunteers who make ECT's work possible.
- For continued funds for the work of ECT.
- For the children and youth that Anthony & the volunteers meet with each day.
- For God to provide the people we need in various roles.
- For us to be able to resume our activities soon and reach out to all
- For the 'Your Space' sessions.

We are always in need of volunteers in many areas of work within ECT.

The Friday night Youth club is in need of helpers – once a month (or more!) for 2 hours on a Friday evening during term time.

Could you help with fundraising? Run an activity? Or donate your time and skills in any other way? Please get in touch!

House Group

The house group has been reignited after a brief period of closure due to the young people heading off to university.

The pandemic and the sudden use of online meeting platforms such as Zoom has meant that this group has been able to come back together. This was at the request of the young people who attended the original sessions.

The group meets regularly every other Sunday evening for a time faith discussion and as always we finish some light hearted fun and games. It has been great to reconnect with these youngsters.

ONE to ONE

The group, like many, has not been able to run face to face sessions due to the restrictions and safety around covid19.

However we were able to run a couple of outdoor walks with the group when the restrictions did allow in the summer, this gave an opportunity for everyone to get out for a catch up and some exercise and to also enjoy some of the fantastic countryside we have around us here in Edenbridge. Due to a number of factors, this has been the hardest groups to plan for. The room we use is small and confined but because of the location it is the best location for us. We do hope that once all of our volunteers have had their vaccines and infection rates have declined significantly, we will be able to come together again.

School Clubs

ECT has not been able to run any of the regular school clubs at present because of school policies around covid19.

We hope to get back into schools as soon as a school guidance allows.

ECT WEBSITE

Eden Christian Trust now has a brand new website with lots of information about ECT activities and a number of useful links to helpful resources. Please have a look at www.ectyouth.com