

# Termly Round Up!

**We've had a busy end to the summer and a busy start to the new academic year! We'd like to share some of our stories and news with you...**

**Reading Festival** rolled out a new initiative called Air Hubs. Soulscape ran an Air Hub in one of the campsites across the festival weekend, with regular and new volunteers joining the team. The aim was to support festival goers and in doing so, support the security teams, medical and welfare teams, etc. and to create a community feel. We feel we made an impact, and we had a lot of fun too! It was great to be there to help, but also to chat to the young people who were mainly there to be with friends and have a good time.

**Reading Fest story...** We helped young people in a range of ways; lost property, directions, getting the correct medical help, being friendly and available for a chat when the vastness and crowds became overwhelming, thinking of creative ways to get phones out of toilets...but one story had a real impact on me...

A young person came up to us very early one morning looking for a Reading carpark. When we explained where it was and how long it would take to get there she started crying. It was GCSE results day and her parents were travelling down to Reading to open her results with her. She said 'I don't even know why I'm crying. It's too far, it's too much and I'm worried because I really want to do well'. We were able to have

a chat, calm her down and give her dad a different postcode to meet his daughter nearer to where she was. I walked her across some fields to meet her parents and while we walked she visibly calmed down and was so thankful, saying she doesn't know what she would have done without our help.

A lighter moment was when a student recognised us from their school and shouted out to us 'NO WAY'.

I've since spoken to some parents who said it felt safe knowing Soulscape was there, for them and their young people.

**We're looking forward to being there again next year! Do you fancy joining us?**



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**In September** our Mind the Gap team were ready to welcome all the year 7's into their new schools. It was wonderful to see them settle in and gain confidence as the week progressed.

"I would like to express how important and valuable this project is for our students. The students and parents really value your input. We had one student in particular who really struggled and was supported by Michelle and Nonde. The student said they felt truly supported and even made friends with someone in her form, which the team socially engineered. Thanks so much- it's a great project." **HEAD OF YEAR 7**

**This term we're back in schools with our regular projects.** We are Mentoring in a number of schools and building good, supportive relationships with young people. The Lounge is back! We are running 9 spaces per week. Both projects require an energetic, dedicated team with a heart for young people and we definitely have that! Some incredible stories we can't share, but during our first week of The Lounge one of the team met with a young person who had come because they saw us as a safe space. That is what it's all about! We want young people to feel safe and listened to!



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**FUSE** is our community project being delivered in a number of Secondary schools. It's been great to hear from parents...

'X was telling me about FUSE - she said it was great, and told me about it without me even having to ask, so it must have been good!'

'X really enjoyed what you did in school.'



**This term** we will once again be partnering with Activate Learning to deliver Give and Take to year 5 and 8 students. We look forward to telling you more about this in our next update.

**Our team would love to have a chat with you to tell you more about what we do and explore ways you might like to get involved! Please take a look at our website and/or social media to find out more about our projects and to get in touch with the team!**

**Michelle McLeish**

Soulscape's Operations Manager  
& Youth Mental Health First Aider

## A massive thank you to all our supporters!

The community and churches support us in so many different ways and we'd like to encourage you to support us whilst having fun THIS October! Why not bring some friends along and join us for An Autumn Evening with Soulscape...

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