



**SUMMERHOUSE
TRAINING**
POTENTIAL • DEVELOP • ACHIEVE

“Designed to promote Equality & Diversity, Safeguarding, Health and Safety and British Values in our teaching and learning seamlessly. Enhancing learning for individuals using current key stories in the local, national and international news.”

This Month's *Hot Topic*

“ We have accepted the homeless situation as a problem that we just can't solve.

Steven Wingate | RMN

SCHOOLBOY DONATES CHRISTMAS SAVINGS TO FEED MERSEYSIDE HOMELESS

A BIG-HEARTED schoolboy is donating his Christmas savings to feed the homeless in Merseyside.

Zack Jennings, from Middlewich, was so upset to see an old man crying in a doorway he bought him lunch with his pocket money.

The eight-year-old has now arranged to provide a hot meal for 200 people on the street and he has launched an appeal to feed the homeless on Christmas Day.

His mum Paula said: “Zack is very caring and has a heart of gold.

“He was really distraught when he saw an elderly homeless man crying in Liverpool. He said to me: “I don't want anything for Christmas. I want to give it all to the homeless.”

Paula contacted her friend Colette Norton, who runs Dial A Roast in Wirral, and they have arranged to provide a hot meal for 200 homeless people at St Michael's Church in Liverpool on Friday, December 7.

“It's all Zack's idea,” said Paula. “He has given his own money that he saved and me, my mum and Colette have all matched it. He was willing to give up all of his money and have nothing for Christmas. We couldn't let that happen but he wanted us to take £50.”

Zack first became aware of the homeless on a bus ride to Liverpool during the summer two years ago.

Paula said: “There was a homeless girl aged around 16 in a doorway who was very upset. Zack made me get off the bus and help her. He was only six but from that day every Christmas he has wanted to do something for the homeless.”

Zack's brother Ben, 13, and Jude, five, will be helping him feed the homeless.

His older brother Harry, 20, has pledged his support but is unable to help as he serves with the RAF.

“We're doing this as a family,” added Paula. “Me and his dad Stephen are really really proud of him.”

Money raised from Zack's appeal will supply food for YMCAs and homes for the vulnerable at Christmas.



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To donate to Zack's cause visit:

<https://www.gofundme.com/help-feed-the-homeless-at-xmas>



Health and Safety – The impact of sleeping rough

Christmas is traditionally a time for celebrations and spending time with friends and family. However, for some this is simply not the case, especially for those without a home to enjoy the festive celebrations. Without these home comforts and plummeting winter temperatures, basic survival is the biggest priority. According to the homeless charity St. Mungo's "Sleeping rough in the cold is dangerous and the average age of death of a homeless man is 47. For a woman, it is just 43."

With the cost of rent and housing prices in London increasing at an alarming rate, this has contributed to the number of people sleeping rough doubling in the last 5 years. There are also other significant risks to sleeping rough such as health issues due to poor hygiene and nutrition, unprovoked attacks and a heightened risk of mental health issues and substance abuse.

If you were in the situation of being homeless what would you do? What body temperature does hypothermia begin at?

By Andrew Forsyth

British Values Rule of Law – Supporting the Homeless Community

Did you know that some 1,137 people sleep rough on the streets of London every night. This has risen by 169% between 2010 – 2018 due to shortages of affordable housing, changes to entitlements, economic downturn which has made work more competitive. People come from all walks of life, but the majority have experienced significant trauma in their childhood or early adult years which they have never recovered from.

Homelessness is often triggered by changes to someone's structural circumstances, i.e. Lack of affordable housing, unemployment, personal changes which could include relationship breakdown, poor mental or physical health and having grown up in care.

Our British values state, democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect for the tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.

Do you think our british values support the homeless community? What do you think can be done to reduce the rise in the homeless?

By Paul Davis

Equality and Diversity – England's most disadvantaged groups

There is strong evidence that homeless people suffer from multiple disadvantages and that some policy responses to homelessness, such as the current housing system, may deepen the inequalities that already exist. This has important socioeconomic and health consequences.

A UK study by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation showed 'a strong association between homelessness and withdrawal from education' (Quilgars et al., 2008). More recent research in England reports that around half of young homeless people are not in education, employment or training (NEET) at the point of becoming homeless and many also lack independent living skills. This may be due to a disrupted education or difficult childhood experiences that also contributed to them becoming homeless. 21% of young people supported by homelessness agencies and 15% of those seen by local authorities had poor literacy or numeracy skills (HomelessLink, 2014).

What can we do, to reduce the rate of withdrawal from education? Are homeless people supported enough by the local authorities?

By Steven Wingate

Safeguarding – Protect homeless children

According to a report by charity Shelter, nearly 130,000 children in Britain will wake up homeless and in temporary accommodation this Christmas as child homelessness reaches a 10-year high, new research shows.

The number of youngsters who will be spending the festive period in temporary accommodation such as B&Bs and hostels – often with a single room for the whole family and no kitchen – is up 7 per cent on last year, amounting to an additional 8,000 children.

Interviews carried out by the charity reveal a quarter of families in temporary accommodation have no access to a kitchen, with many having to eat meals on the bed or floor of their room. The vast majority live in a single room, with more than a third of parents saying they have to share a bed with their children. These families are unsecured.

Who is to be blamed? Can a homeless person register with a GP? What are the dangers they face being out there? What are the impacts of homelessness on young people's career and education?

By Juliana Edemah

Further Information:

<https://www.wirralglobe.co.uk/news/17261241.schoolboy-donates-christmas-savings-to-feed-merseyside-homeless/>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/child-homeless-christmas-rises-10-year-high-children-poverty-temporary-accomodation-shelter-a8093276.html>

https://england.shelter.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/48465/Research_report_Sick_and_Tired_Dec_2004.pdf

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/is-england-fairer-2016-most-disadvantaged-groups-homeless-people.pdf>



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Safeguarding



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