

HEADLINE NEWS

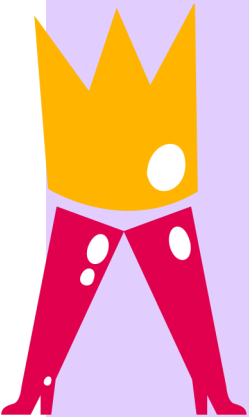
After two years of Covid restrictions and a last minute cancellation due to Storm Eunice...we were finally able to have our **PRIDE PROM** on Friday 8th April!

We had the wonderful Pete from Cinnamon Photography bringing us a retro photobooth (which doubled up as a models' changing area for an impromptu cat walk!). With huge thanks to George Shearing Youth Centre for letting us use their space for our special event.

The prom was possible with thanks to the Jack Petchey scheme and our amazing peer nominated award winners.

We had great music, dancing, pizza and of course, every good prom has a bit of drama and ours was no exception...our brand new disco smoke machine set off the fire alarm so we had a frantic 10 minutes trying to figure out how to turn it off before the party could safely continue!

To ensure everyone was able to be their true self, the prom dress code was "whatever makes you feel comfortable and fabulous". This resulted in an amazing array of outfits including a literal interpretation with one young person coming along in their dressing gown and a gold crown!



PRIDE MONTH

This Pride month why not head on over to our fabulous e-shop and treat yourself! We've got hoodies, T-shirts, water bottles, travel cups, mugs and tote bags with our Love Is Love logo, Better Together Rainbow and the fabulous Rainbow Frog designed by one of our youth members.

And we have added a special FREE2B T-shirt design for Pride Month.

All funds raised will be used to provide our youth members with essential wellbeing resources.



FREE2B BULLETIN SUMMER 2022

YOUNG PEOPLE

Our school forums have been thriving since we have been able to return fully with in-person sessions.

In May they were busy designing posters for IDAHOBIT with this year's theme: Our bodies, Our rights, Our choice.

The forums are often the only space where young people can be their true selves. These are just some of their recent comments about attending:

"It makes me feel accepted. Usually in my class my classmates are very insensitive and make offensive jokes. Coming here when I'm sad makes me feel better."

"I'm comfortable and feel safe about my gender and sexuality."

"I like it because I feel welcome, accepted...and I just enjoy the community."

Our trans wellbeing group welcomed a very special guest speaker to our half term session - Ro, a former Gap and Rainbow Power member, joined us to talk about what brings them gender euphoria.

And we have had some great workshops at our youth clubs including bracelet making, safe spaces, healthy relationships, Young Vic workshop, and a team challenge egg drop led by Rainbow Power.



TRAINING

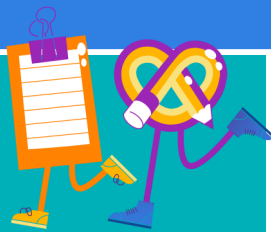
It was a pleasure to deliver a full day advanced training for professionals working with young people. The course contents were co-developed with our fabulous youth council, Rainbow Power.

We were proud to award our inclusivity benchmark to Regenerate following their amazing journey to ensure their youth centre is LGBTQ+ inclusive.

They completed our training programme and undertook an extensive policy review and update to achieve the award.

Congratulations Regenerate!

For more info please visit our training webpage: www.free2b.lgbt/training



PROUD PARENTS

Upcoming sessions:
22nd Jun | 6th July | 20th Jul

We continue to run a mix of online sessions and in-person groups.

Recent discussion topics have included: dealing with gender critical views, inspirational YouTubers and supporting positive mental health. And we welcomed guest speaker Stephen Davidson who is a vocal coach.

We are looking forward to our **Pre Pride Picnic on 9th July**. We are meeting at Green Park for a social get together before the London Trans Pride March.

For more details please contact Nicki:
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