



PILOT ACTION PLAN

November Progress Report

Last month we reported on some of the challenges and successes of the first 6 months of the Pilot, and the plans we had to make changes in this academic year.

We've had an exciting month, with some really great interaction with young people and churches.

Engine Room - Gathering Christian YP

Vision

To bring Christian Young People together so that they make new friends, grow in gifts and are inspired to be culture changers together.

How?

A monthly gathering of Christian young people from across the district regardless of denomination, background or level of faith. Encouraging and empowering young people to lead each other in games, worship, prayer, mission and ministry.

Helping them to discover their gifts, grow in them in a safe environment & be creative in how they live their life for Jesus in their schools and communities

What's happening:

At October's Engine Room we got some great feedback from the group about how they'd like the group to continue and develop - the headlines being:

- Continue Monthly in St Laurence Church
- Have less sung worship and more time to talk about life and faith questions
- Have savoury food as well as sweet!
- Use ER to plan illuminateLIVE events that they can invite their friends too

What's next:

November's Engine Room will be planning for illuminateLIVE Christmas, and also our tree in the Christmas Tree Festival

Connections and Communications

Vision

Supporting local churches in discipling young people as missionaries

How?

Clear communication and connection to churches, ministers, youth leaders and other stakeholders about illuminate, with a flexibility to support and serve them well

What's happening:

I attended a Stroud Deanery Synod and reported on illuminateStroud there, plus gave out our illuminate poster to be displayed in churches (and they're putting them up!!)

We've agreed with young people from Engine Room & illuminateARCHWAY the kind of merchandise they'd like, and we've got some lovely notebooks, torches and lapel badges which we will be giving out to young people. The lightbulb image is designed to act like a modern version of the Fish symbol, so young people can identify other Christians because they have the badge/torch/sticker/notebook etc.

We have increased our social media activity, especially around Instagram.

What's next:

I am meeting with those running Messy Church in St Matthews and Holy Trinity to offer support to them, especially where they have young people in year 6 or above.

There is a monthly Gloucestershire Youthworkers Prayer Meeting which rotates around the area, we are going to host the November one and invite all those people across the Stroud District to come along

With the Diocese we are looking at developing some county-wide events - Retreat Days, Camps, etc. which would provide next steps events more manageable than the big festivals

Continue to liaise with youthworkers, church leaders, etc. locally to ensure they are supported and served well
I have met with the Communications Team at the Diocese to discuss how youth ministry can have a broader profile in
comms across the Diocese, and agreed to highlight some of the illuminate work to them.

Work in Schools

Vision

Creating a generation of Christian young people empowered and supported to live a Kingdom-centred life which changes
the culture of their school communities and shares the love and message of Jesus.

How?

By introducing Christian young people to others within their school, and inspiring them to believe that small numbers of
people can bring about significant change when it is intentionally channelled together.

Christian youthworkers building a strong presence within schools through links with RE and Pastoral teams to be a
known Christian role model for Christian and non-Christian young people.

What's happening:

Archway

We launched illuminateARCHWAY, a weekly "Christian Union" on a Wednesday with support of two year 11 students and
one of the RE teachers. The school lunch break is now only 30 minutes so it is a fast-paced session of eating lunch,
talking about Jesus and praying (plus sweets or cake). This has started well, with 6 Christian young people and 2
"friends" attending every week. The bulk of the group are year's 7 or 8, and last week several other of their friends were
outside the room and we invited them in for sweets, but they stayed for the Prayers! One of the year 8 girls has also told
me that her friend messaged her to say how much she is enjoying the group, and that she has started to "Pray to God
before bed"

The group is keen to invite friends along to illuminateLIVE Christmas in December

Our first week of activities with the RE department is in December, with most year 8-10 classes having a lesson where
they can interact with a Prayer Spaces around the person of Jesus. I have approached Churches Together in Stroud to
ask for volunteers to help with this, and have had a couple of responses, including from the Gideons rep who has offered
bibles.

There are more of these sessions planned for later in the academic year.

Thomas Keble

No further progress with the Lunch Club.

I am going to make contact with the head of RE to discuss how we might be able to replicate some of the work in Archway
Maidenhill

PSALMS are running a Prayer Spaces in school in December, during the same week as the one in Archway – we will be
pooling resources for this and I will hopefully be able to pop over and see it in action.

Transition

I was invited to meet with the head of Leonard Stanley Primary School who is keen to engage with all aspects of
Transition work at The Door, including illuminate – we discussed the use of the Scripture Union "Its Your Move" material
which he was interested in. approx. 50% of students move to Archway and 50% to Maidenhill so there is a good
opportunity to connect these young people into work in those schools.

Other Schools

I had an initial meeting with the minister and youthworker at Wotton Baptist Church who are keen to develop stronger
Christian work within KLB school.

What's next:

I have been in discussions with the staff at SCAPS the pupil referral service about the need for them to increase their
Spiritual Education, and have agreed to run some sessions in school with their KS3 group as a pilot of what might be
possible.

Diocese-wide training event on 29th Feb focused on Schools Work with both primary and secondary schools work catered
for, and a key theme of joining up our work

Continue to support PSALMS work in Maidenhill

*illuminate
Stroud*

To inspire, equip and empower Christian young people to be
culture changers in their school communities through an
active faith which draws others into relationship with Jesus



illuminateLIVE

Vision

To Deliver quality Christian live events to invite young people to.

How?

Create 3 "mission weeks" in schools during the year which engage with the Arts and RE/PHSE, using professional artists to deliver quality activities in school, and an end of week "LIVE" event where the Gospel is proclaimed.

What's happening:

Starting with a Christmas event, run illuminateLIVE six times per year but on a smaller scale – making these the Youth Worship events for young people across the area to come to and bring their friends.

Giving the Engine Room group ownership and support to run and develop illuminateLIVE, using their gifts and skills and being mentored by the ER team

In discussions with PSALMS ministers, they are very keen to utilise these as outreach events for their groups, and will be promoting December, plus have allocated a minister who will lead on this for them

Ensure that local youthworkers and church leaders give these high priority and include them in their programmes for their own work.

What's next:

Connect these into the wider County wide events described above

*illuminate
Stroud*

To inspire, equip and empower Christian young people to be culture changers in their school communities through an active faith which draws others into relationship with Jesus

