

# Word Wall

## Aim:

- To create a space for participants to air their thoughts, feelings and opinions in a creative way.

## Materials:

- Several sheets of flipchart paper
- Blu Tack
- Sticky tape
- Marker Pens
- Copies of the Activity Review Sheet (p.164)

## Maximum Number of Young People:

- Any

## Time needed:

- This is an ongoing activity

## Method:

- Rather than a one-off activity, the Word Wall is something to keep up for the duration of your sessions. It is a good way for young people to express themselves and becomes something that is owned by every member of the group.
- Stick several sheets of flipchart paper up on the wall so there is a large space to write on.
- Introduce this to the group as the Word Wall. Explain that they can write on the wall at any time to express how they are feeling, they can write a word they have heard or that they like, and anything else. You may want to encourage young people to draw on the wall as well.
- You should stress that this is not the place to write swear words or disrespectful words as this is a positive resource for everyone, and that wouldn't be helpful. Also stress there is no pressure to write on the wall, but there is the freedom for everyone to do so if they wish.
- You may want to begin the use of the Word Wall during the session you have introduced it. Ask participants to write up words, thoughts or how they are feeling during this first session, which will hopefully encourage them to write on the wall unprompted next time.

## Taking this activity further:

You may choose to develop a Word Wall around a theme or topic you are currently exploring with the young people. This could become a creative place to explore participants' ideas, thoughts and feelings around a topic that may be harder to explore in other ways.

## Transferable Skills:

Through this activity, participants will develop their creative and expressive skills.

## Linking to the Youth Work Curriculum:

This activity links in to the Creativity and Challenge; Health and Well-being, and Personal and Social Development areas of the Youth Work Curriculum.