

Durham Agency Against Crime (DAAC) is a charity, closely aligned to Durham Constabulary. Formed in 1990, DAAC works in partnership with public, voluntary, and private sector partners to make County Durham and Darlington a safer place to work live and invest.

DAAC delivers innovative projects and initiatives to develop young people with the aim of facilitating long-term change. We educate and challenge behaviour, function as a catalyst for local action and add value to our partner's community safety

Our award-winning work has received regional and national recognition, achieving huge success.



Our Aims & Objectives

- Develop pro-active projects to meet community needs,
- Increase positive perception of young people.
- Inspire community confidence.
- Stimulate partnership and networking,
- Promote innovative approaches to crime prevention and community safety and Improve life opportunities for young people.



We are frequently asked why there is a need for interventions that focus on young people who have no convictions. The answer lies in the value of early intervention and prevention.

DAAC has a strong history of developing and implementing projects aimed at early intervention and prevention. Their approach is based on studies, which argue that prevention and early intervention is more cost effective than rehabilitation.

DAAC and Durham Constabulary have historically considered this element to be key in tackling crime and disorder and in their strategy for targeting young people prior to their entry into the criminal justice system.

DAAC's delivery projects are based on a 3-step approach.

DAAC chooses to **Educate** young people, so that they are better equipped to make good choices but more than that, it wants them to acquire skills, qualifications and accreditation that improve their life opportunities. It is important that its students gain a sense of **Community** by performing positive social action activities that gives them a sense of achievement and belonging.

Activities are designed partly as a **Reward** but increasingly to reinforce education and community goals. Confidence building, team activities, sport, enrichment and learning new skills all help to develop the young person's potential.



**Volunteer
Police
Cadets**



DAAC runs the Volunteer Police Cadets Scheme on behalf of Durham Constabulary and operate with 4 units 2 juniors north and south (11-14 years) and 2 seniors (15-18 years).

Durham Police Cadets were very fortunate to receive funding from British Engines to allow the purchase of sports equipment for both North and South Units.

This means each unit has its own set of equipment to use at any time. The cadets have had endless enjoyment using the equipment, especially the Unihoc sets.

Thank you, British Engines!



During February Half term our Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award participants attended a training weekend at Carlton in Cleveland at the foot of the North Yorkshire Moors.



They spent the weekend in very comfortable scout accommodation and had great fun despite adverse weather conditions. They practiced their navigation skills and camp craft and even managed to pitch their tents in the dark!



In March the Junior Cadets were very excited to experience a visit to Cleveland & Durham Tactical Training Centre.

They were able to see all the equipment the Armed Response Vehicle use, learn about the training the firearms officers undertake.

However, the icing on the cake was a visit to the PRISim room where the cadets were given the opportunity to try the firearms simulator!



If you think you would like to volunteer as a leader to inspire or even be inspired by our young people, please get in touch to find out how?

cadets@daac.org.uk

Our Youth Apprentice Mini Police teams have been extremely busy delivery Anti-Social Behaviour workshops in line with Operation 'Trail Blazer'. At the end of the easter term the teams have delivered to 77 schools totalling 2146 mini police officers.



Targeting primary schools in identified areas of high ASB. The team educate the

- Establishing honesty and trust whilst promoting a practical understanding of policing
- Provide individual resilience against the influences of crime, anti-social behaviour, and educational/social exclusion.
- Developing self esteem and confidence to encourage personal development and consideration for others.
- Encourage the principles of citizenship by developing and inspiring individuals to participate in the community.
- Develop social action projects to support community and policing priorities.



As well as delivering the Mini Police programme DAAC staff and the apprentice youth workers has delivered the Police & Crime Commissioners challenge project.



The Commissioners Challenge project, a multi staged crime prevention awareness programme has been designed by young people for young people,

to ensure school pupils aged 9-10yrs are equipped with the knowledge they need to make safe choices both now and in the future. The scheme was launched in mid-September 2023 with an aim to offer all primary schools in Co Durham and Darlington the opportunity to take part in the Commissioner's Challenge initiative enabling them to secure bronze, silver, and gold awards.

The scheme has been separated into three key themes: Keeping Our Family, Friends and Neighbours Safe; Keeping Our Streets Safe; and Keeping Ourselves Safe.

It engages youngsters in activities such as litter picking, safe road practices and property marking with UV marker pens to earn themselves badges recognising their achievements.



At the end of the easter term the project has been delivered to 149 schools with 4,644 Young People direct engagement.

Outdoor Based Projects

The DAAC OBP team are currently working with 5 secondary schools with their early intervention youth development project.

The 5 groups have covered various education workshops covering topics such as grooming, sexual assault, theft, vaping, and online safety.

They have visited various sites such as Spennymoor police cells, the dog section where they met Jet n Ben and enrichment visits to Durham Cathedral and the Huegh Battery museum.

The groups really enjoyed their Bush craft experience.



The groups also visited the RLNI at Cullercoats, on the North East Coast and learned about how essential teamwork and communication skills are crucial in saving lives

They finished their visit with a beach cleaning



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