



**....unlocking doors for you**

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COMMUNITY HOUSING ADVOCACY PROJECT  
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

# What does CHAP do?

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CHAP provides free, confidential, independent advice, information and advocacy support for housing, debt and welfare rights issues and can represent at court for rent arrears and at benefit tribunals. The service is available to all residents of North Ayrshire, regardless of which town or area you live in.

# The Education Department

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CHAP has been commissioned by North Ayrshire Council to deliver a programme of Homelessness Education Lessons to pupils in all of the 9 secondary schools across North Ayrshire. The project is now approaching its 16th year of operation. Over the past 15 years, the education department has delivered input to **27,858** young people. It is intended that the lessons will encourage young people to carefully consider their options before taking the decision to leave home and to enable them to identify who would be able to assist them with housing issues.

# Our work in schools

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**S4-** We deliver a workshop which aims to prevent youth homelessness as well as raise awareness of homelessness and de-stigmatise the issue. The workshop includes information on budgeting and the cost of maintaining a tenancy.

**S5-** We deliver a more in-depth housing workshop to S5 which again aims to prevent youth homelessness. Through various activities, the young people gain a more in-depth knowledge of their housing options, their responsibilities as a tenant and an understanding of shared tenancies.

**S6-** We deliver a workshop to S6, usually in an assembly style format, about aspects of student accommodation for higher education. It is hoped that the session, with related information and activities, will encourage a more carefully considered route towards independent living and will make young people aware of the reality of this, therefore reducing youth homelessness. The workshop aims to make young people aware of their accommodation options in higher education as well as the reality of student life such as; cost of living, responsibilities as a tenant and understanding of student loans/bursaries.



# Alternative Curriculum Classes

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As well as the initial awareness raising session delivered to fourth year pupils, CHAP also works with young people following an 'Alternative Curriculum' within the schools. This is to ensure that those individuals who may be more vulnerable to experiencing homelessness i.e. those who are habitual absentees at school, those who have been socially excluded, those who may have additional needs and those who may have behavioural/emotional issues, are targeted appropriately.

The input with the Alternative Curriculum groups is more extensive and interactive than the single lesson input with the fourth year classes and runs over a 6 week course. The project works with all available alternative curriculum programmes throughout North Ayrshire.



Prince's Trust



North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath



NORTH AYRSHIRE  
Developing the  
Young Workforce

# Youth Groups

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We also deliver workshops to young people who are part of local youth groups. This input is modelled on the alternative curriculum framework, with adaptations where appropriate. The delivery of the input is flexible with the programme being able to be delivered over two half days or over a six week period for an hour each session or by way of the original full day format.

The term 'youth groups' refers to self-development programmes or vocational programmes that are offered to young people once they have left school, as opposed to traditional youth groups that are for recreational purposes.

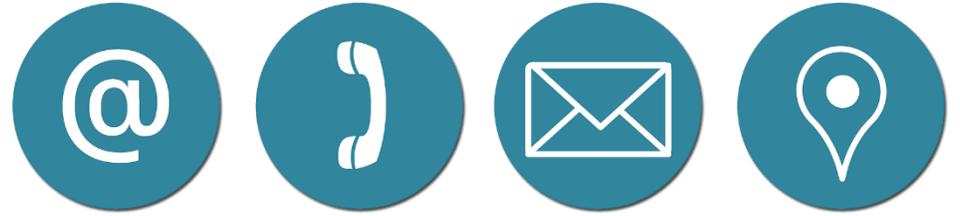
Youth groups which CHAP is currently involved with are; Prince's Trust, Redburn Activity Agreement Group, Extended Outreach and Pupil Support.



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# How to contact us

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If you require assistance with Housing, Welfare Rights or Debt advice,

Call us on 01294 475636

Visit our website- <https://www.chap.org.uk/>

Or e-mail - [chaphousing@gmail.com](mailto:chaphousing@gmail.com)

Or find us on Facebook- CHAP

If you work with young people who would benefit from our input,

Call us on 01294 475636

Visit our website- <http://www.chap-at-the-door.org.uk/>

Or email- [chaphousing@gmail.com](mailto:chaphousing@gmail.com)



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