



Frequently Asked Questions for Families

- **What does TYLA mean?**

TURN YOUR LIFE AROUND

- **What does the trust do?**

Empowers young people at risk of offending to turn their lives around and take responsibility for their actions. We do this by visiting youth at their school, visiting parents and youth at their home, engaging youth with life skills learned at camp, holiday programmes etc.

Working collaboratively with other organisations to ensure information is shared and that TYLA programme are consistent with best service delivery.

- **Who does the trust help?**

The Tyla Youth Trust supports youths from the age of 10 through to 16.

In addition, TYLA works alongside and support families of youth to assist them manage challenging behaviours displayed by the youth.

- **Why do they help these youth?**

Research has shown that that early intervention in the lives of youths who are making unwise choices can limit the risk of them choosing the wrong path in life.

- **What support do the youth get?**

Each youth is allocated to a social worker or youth worker dependant on their age. They then build a relationship with their individual case worker who can then assess their emotional and practical needs. Then together they will build a realistic and achievable plan that enables them to take responsibility for their actions.

- **What support do the families get?**

Each youth has an allocated social or youth worker depending on their age. This case worker works with the family, youth, school and community in the best interest of the youth involved.

- **How does TYLA work with the schools?**

As it is in the best interest of all youth to complete their education TYLA works with the school and youth to maximise and support this opportunity. By working closely with the youth and their teacher we can offer the emotional and practical support required e.g. literacy and numeracy tuition.

- **What is social work intervention?**

The social work profession promotes social change, problem solving in human relationships and the empowerment and liberation of people to enhance well-being. Utilising theories of human behaviour and social systems, social work intervenes at the points where people interact with their environments. Principles of human rights and social justice are fundamental to social work

- **How do youth get selected for the TYLA Programme?**

TYLA and the Police work together in partnership for the benefit of the youth. The TYLA programme aims to identify youth displaying behaviour which puts them at risk of offending. In some cases the youth have already come to the attention of the police as they are committing petty offences in the school or community, if this is the case then the local Youth Aid Officer will contact the school and young person's family and if necessary Child Youth and Family services . At this point a referral may be made to the TYLA Programme via the TYLA Police Liaison Officer.

- **Does this mean our young people are on the police records?**

No, it means that the young person's details will be in the police system with an alert to notify me the TYLA Police Liaison Officer when they come into police attention - e.g. "Fred" gets caught shoplifting in the weekend, police arrive and put Fred's name in the system, his name will come up with an alert to say that Fred is involved with the TYLA program and to notify me. A young person will only have a police record if he/she has committed an offence and has been convicted of that crime.

- **Does this mean the police are watching our family?**

No, it'll mean that the family will have access to a dedicated and understanding Police Officer if they have any problems or questions they need answering.

- **How long is the programme**

Youth are identified for the programme between the ages of 10 and 13 and the y can remain on the programme until they are resilient enough to take responsibility for their actions. However in the majority of cases the youth will remain with the TYLA programme through their school years. TYLA has the aim to support these youth to achieve their NCEA Level 1 certificate.

- **What is going to happen if my child keeps misbehaving?**

Unfortunately in some cases we cannot sustain the level of support needed if the youth and family do not involve themselves and take steps to take responsibility. However TYLA will endeavour to work with all agencies to support where ever possible.

- **What is a Family Group Conference?**

A family group conference (FGC) is a formal meeting for members of the family group/Whanau/hapu/iwi, the young offender and the victim to decide how the young offender can be held accountable and encouraged to take responsibility for their behaviour. The focus of youth justice is putting right the wrong, not punishment. Other people, such as the Police, a social worker, or a youth advocate may also attend the conference. Child, Youth and Family and the Police also have the opportunity to agree or disagree with the decisions.

- **Why are the Police working with TYLA?**

Research has shown that early intervention in the lives of youths starting to display antisocial behaviour that may lead to criminal activity reduces the risk.

- **Will this cost my family money?**

No, the programme is free to the youth and families involved.

We may ask for your support during school holiday programmes to provide a packed lunch but all activities will be free.

- **Will we be on the CYF register?**

No – TYLA is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) and is able to work independently from CYFS. However, if C&P concerns are present with any family we work with, a notification, with the awareness and support of the family will be made to CYFS.

- **Will this affect our WINZ funding?**

No

- **Will this affect our child's education?**

Being part of the TYLA Programme will enhance the young person's education as TYLA aims to support the schools with practical support.

- **What information will TYLA keep about our family?**

The TYLA Trust does have a database but we adhere to the Privacy Act

- **Who will TYLA share this information with?**

No-one, without your permission.