

Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service – King's Trust



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Week 1 – Induction Week

We welcomed the new team Pendle 80 onto station. They took part in activities and games to get to know each other, a station tour and getting to know the crew. They planned for residential and finally got to partake in being firefighters for the afternoon by going to the Leadership and Development Centre in Chorley to put fires out and test their skills as a team in the ratrun. This week saw the friendships forming, conversations started to flow and the start of becoming a team together.



Week 2 Team Building Residential

The team took on a 4 day and 3-night residential trip at the wonderful Smelt Mill Cottages in the Trough of Bowland. This week saw the students test their teamwork, communication and leadership skills. They took part in teambuilding activities, canoeing, raft building, an 8km self-led walk and a mountain rescue activity. The team also prepared some evening meals for the rest of the group in order to develop their cooking skills. This week helped the students to learn each other's strengths and weaknesses which will prove useful leading up to future weeks.



Weeks 3 to 5 Community Project

After their successful trip on residential the group got stuck into searching for their community project. They visited 3 local non-profit organisations who pitched what work they needed doing, the group visited: In-Situ, Good Life Project and The DEEN Centre. Armed with the information they needed, the team put it to a vote of who they felt they could best support. They voted and picked In-Situ for their indoor painting project. The team then spent 8 days working hard to complete a refresh of the staircase, hallway and 3 of the office spaces with mural designs. At the end of their 8 days the team gave a public speech to an audience with the mayor in attendance to celebrate their hard work and hand the project back to In-Situ.



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DELIVERY PARTNER

Week 6 Leadership Skills

After the success of the community project, we stepped up the excitement for week 6, the team got to work for 3 days with the firefighters. We learnt about water safety and how to use a throw line and run hoses. We successfully learnt how to rescue someone from a road traffic collision and what equipment is used and, finally, we put all our skills to the test to complete the smoke house at Burnley Fire Station. The team worked on more leadership skills by leading a 20-minute activity on a topic of their choice to the rest of the group, and had a lived experience talk by Onward Lives. This week gave the team a new perspective whilst preparing to go onto their work placement and develop professional behaviours.



Weeks 7 & 8 Individual Work Placements

Now is when we got serious, the team got to put all their new skills to the test whilst going on a work placement in a industry of their choice. Paige went to Pendle Dogs Den and loved it so much she secured further volunteering opportunities after the programme completed. Taylor set a very high standard with a new work placement provider Bowland Builders who loved having his enthusiastic and willing to learn attitude for 2 weeks. Masen also got a unique placement at Clover Leaf Autos, restoring and working on vintage cars. All the students got to have an opportunity to learn and try these industries before going into the careers full time. Thank you to those who provided placements, Favourdale Care home, Good life project, LAL, Accountaxation, Team RISE, Elisha House, SMJ Falconry, Colne Citadel, Abbeyfield care home.



Week 9 Next Steps

The team spent a week planning their next steps, they applied for jobs, created a strong CV, completed mock interviews with the YESHUB, and worked with East Lancs Learning Group to see if there was a college course that suited their needs. They also had guest speakers from Claire Buckle at Ability Consultancy, Rachael from UK Parliament, and Harmony from Lancashire Mind. As a result, most of them have secured places of employment or voluntary work, returning to education or into training.



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Weeks 10 & 11 The Team Challenge

With the end of the programme approaching, the team got stuck into planning their team challenges, they decided to run a coffee morning for veterans on station and offer services that can support them. They held an activity afternoon for the elderly, running bingo, noughts and crosses and a quiz which also had prizes for the elderly to enjoy. Their final team challenge was to create a campaign around the red and green flags associated with toxic relationships. This was after their sessions with BeFree and Paladin around healthy relationships. The team also got to have a money management session and learn basic first aid.

Week 12 Team Review and Presentation

The team completed any remaining module work and end of team paperwork before having their final presentation at Nelson Cricket Club, to give a final public speech about their journey on the programme. The whole team spoke and gave a heartfelt speech about their time on the programme and what they are moving onto next. They were then presented their certificates by the Mayor of Pendle, before tucking into a buffet to end the celebration. With 13 students 3 achieving the award 10 the certificate and all 10 with an outcome for employment, education or training at the end of the 12 weeks. Congratulations to Pendle team 80



If you know someone interested in knowing more about the course reach out on the contact details at the top of the page. The next team Pendle 81 is due to start on the 14th September 2026 and recruitment is open now for future students.