

What I know about Asset Based Work – Derbyshire Asset Based Learning Network

why is it important

- Assets are something that the local community values
- Asset work is received by the community in a positive way
- It maximises opportunity through the resources available There is a lot of ability & resource out there (in communities)
- There are a lot of assets out there – we need to understand how to unlock the treasure!
- There are willing people in communities
- We have skills, resources in our community family Asset Based work supports the prevention agenda
- We don't always see the value in what we already have in our communities There is growing energy for this work
- It works and is ethical
- When we get it right it works
- Its common sense, human and a no brainer!
- Totally the right approach to create happiness & healthiness in our community
- It's a NHSE recommendation as part of a driver for change

what is it

- It focuses on the positives – what you have got rather than what you haven't or what's wrong
- It is working with strengths, starting where people are at
- It is building on what is strong in the community
- It is focusing on the strengths & positives NOT the negatives
- It is working with what is strong in a community It is a way of working
- It is work led by the community
- It is a bottom up approach
- It is about belonging, identity & pride
- There are lots of different examples
- There are lots of services & organisations approaching AB work differently in Derbyshire
- There is no right or wrong way but principles that underpin the work

how to do it

- Building capacity locally
- Work with and alongside people, communities and their potential
- Work with people to build on assets and strengths Look at what you've got, ask people what they want rather than make assumptions.
- Ask communities what they need & work together to build better links
- Ask what the community wants and work alongside them to make it happen
- Place value on what we already have Build relationships
- By building trust
- By connecting with people who know people to make a difference
- By connecting people
- Partnership working and working together
- By building trust and genuine relationships
- By placing importance on relationships
- By building relationships & trust
- Its about being respectful and humble By listening to understand, take positive steps to action
- By listening to ALL community including children & elderly
- By listening & understanding communities – enabling them to lead
- By developing an understanding of need within communities
- By listening and building trust
- By finding partners and people in place to work with
- It takes time to do it well
- It takes time
- With small steps
- By being patient
- By investing time required
- By acknowledging the importance of working at the communities pace, adjusting how you work BUT with clear structure & scope to what you're trying to achieve Its messy & you need to take risks!
- Its not always easy
- It can be frustrating
- By involving volunteers (we don't have enough!)
- System change is needed to enable it to happen
- The system makes it difficult and needs to change It is import to build skills & confidence
- By remaining positive
- Looking at what you have already
- By acknowledging public & voluntary sector community development roles