

Shpresa: Young People/Children's over 11 year old focus group - 22 young people participated
19th October 2008
Mayfield school

What we like	What we would change/add
<p>Group 1 A place to socialise with friends Different activities keep us busy and out of trouble Everyone has a chance to take part in activities Our voice can be heard Increases confidence level and self-esteem One big community Chance to try different things Prepares you for the future by developing your skills Gets you out of the house Helps you with drama and presentations Helps you with cultural awareness Helps you get experience with different things Meet new people</p> <p>Group 2 That Albanian youngsters can get together and join in different projects Helps identify who we are in terms of our culture and be proud of it Kids and adults can socialise together Educational visits helped us gain confidence Making new friends and getting together The focus is on the minority for the Albanian community Helps children relate to other Albanian kids Provides wide range of activities Opportunities to gain more achievements</p>	<p>Group 1 Provide us with chance to do work experience Learn more variety of dances from different cultures Work with different communities Visiting more businesses and more/new successful people More art projects (e.g. art, drama, photography) Visiting more universities Open branches worldwide, linking youth worldwide Cultural workshops with different cultures Learn how to cook Albanian food Learn how to set up media and IT (e.g. websites) Mix traditional with modern Perform at 2012 Olympics More sports activities to attract boys (e.g. football) Fitness classes for all ages</p> <p>Group 2 Specific programme aimed at 16-21 year-olds Mixture of cultures in the 16-21 age group Better publicity aimed at the 16-21s More opportunities offered in terms of jobs, volunteering, achievements More leisure activities Trips to Albania/Kosovo in order to gain cultural knowledge Shpresa's own youth club External visits to other UK cities Learn Albanian cooking</p>

Additional discussion: Why Shpresa's services (as opposed to other providers)

1. Services targeted to Albanians are more attractive
2. Parents more likely to allow young people/children to attend as they know and trust Shpresa and the staff/volunteers
3. Albanians are a relatively young community in the UK, and have yet to have the confidence to interact with well established communities who have been in the UK for generations.

4. Shpresa could link into other Youth Places and link in Albanians to them; or link in with other community initiatives and encourage cross-volunteering