

# IMPACT REPORT

42<sup>nd</sup> Street- Q42

2016-2017



Getting involved in a group or project is a great way to meet new people, try something new or hone your creative talents.

The Q42 website is being created by LGBTQ+ young people for LGBTQ+ young people, to grow online and offline friendships, explore and develop creative ideas and to challenge any isolation and loneliness felt within our community.



**1.** Q42 is the LGBTQ+ project run by 42<sup>nd</sup> Street for 15-25 year olds. It involves weekly sessions for 2 youth groups and take place at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street premises in Manchester.

**2.** Q42.org.uk is run by LGBTQ+ young people for LGBTQ+ young people to grow online and offline friendships, explore and develop creative ideas and to challenge any isolation and loneliness felt within their community. The young people are working with leading artists and movers and shakers from the creative media sector to co-design and produce this new digital platform, which will build an innovative online network.

**“The group has given me the opportunity to meet other people my age ... in the LGBTQ community. I was hiding my sexuality but now I am happy with who I am.”**

**3.** Our Q42 young people’s groups have formed friendships and reduced isolation for those who attend. Some have feedback it has reduced homophobia for them, which illustrates their improved resilience. It’s great to witness a young person becoming comfortable with themselves, accepting their identity and no longer feeling ashamed.

**4.** Partnership work has been an exciting part of the Q42 project. As work has gathered momentum we have partnered with The Royal Exchange, Gaydio, Reclaim and others. These opportunities have been taken up by our young people who have been attending for longer and feel more confident to participate.

**Re the training in schools: “Very approachable, inclusive and engaging. [It was] accessible, honest, easy to understand and with lots of discussion, built our confidence in supporting the LGBTQ students”**

**5.** The wider project has done outreach work at the Oasis Academy in Salford. We ran an Identity Day with the Year 9 students in partnership with the Integrated Youth Services and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. We have also run Trans Awareness days at Salford University.

**6.** We aim to run sessions with staff and pupils at many more GM schools, including faith schools. We’ve had positive feedback from all the schools we’ve been into and we intend to get more off the ground. This way we can reach more young people who don’t come to the group and who are questioning their identity and feel unable to seek advice and support.