WHO WE ARE?

VEREIN WIENER JUGENDZENTREN
Youth work has an impact

The Verein Wiener Jugendzentren follows the concept of impact orientation. This approach focuses on the core questions of non-profit organisations: “Why do we do what we do?” and “What is it intended to achieve/impact?” The intended effects of youth work are very diverse – they can be individual, very concrete effects, but also large focal points of effects. The effects aimed at by Open Children’s and Youth Work can be found, in principle, on three levels:

Individual impact level:
Youth work promotes the development of young people’s personality and identity.

Social environment impact level:
Youth work has the effect that children and young people and their demands are heard and promotes respectful coexistence.

Impact level on society:
Youth work contributes to social peace and equal opportunities and makes a contribution to living democracy and social participation of young people.

Our principles

Who we are & what we do

Meeting friends in the youth café, playing billiards, playing games, making music, chatting, cooking together, advice and help with problems, creative and media offers, exercise and sports, support with projects, youth culture, making videos, dance battles, parties etc. – children, teenagers and young people can spend their free time in our youth centres as well as the sites where we do mobile youth work. A host of activities are developed with the participation of the children and young people.

The non-profit Verein Wiener Jugendzentren (Association of Viennese Youth Centres) is the largest professional provider of open children’s and youth work in Vienna and was established in 1978. Currently, about 300 staff members run about 40 facilities and projects – including our own girls’ café, services at the Musisches Zentrum Wien (Centre of fine Arts Vienna) and the national media project CU television.

Enabling youth

For one, we offer consumption-free spaces with a permanent presence of youth workers who are available as contact persons, moderators and fellow players. There are also spaces for self-organisation.

Youth workers maintain continuous contact with girls*, boys*, cliques and youth groups in public spaces as part of their outreach and mobile work. The Verein Wiener Jugendzentren defines public space as freely accessible areas such as parks, playgrounds, public sports fields and the like. In addition to regular tours of the neighbourhood, the youth facilities also offer sports and exercise-oriented or creative activities and initiate participation projects in public places.

Youth centres amplify voices

As a lobby for young people, we take up their voices, issues and concerns and give them a platform to express themselves. We support them in their desire for co-determination, in expanding their scope for action and in their need for orientation. We want children and young people to develop and participate as an innovative force in ongoing social development.

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Youth work has an impact

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**Our principles**

- Focus on Social Environment and Life Conditions
- Professional Relationship
- Confidentiality und Transparency
- Biased Mandate
- Voluntary
- Participation
- Intersectionality, Diversity and Gender
- Openness and Low Threshold
- Focus on Necessities and Resources
Contact us!

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