

# Youth Relevant Design



## SAFE

### Youth research supports CPTED Principles

- » Well-lit
- » Covered walkways
- » Open Space
- » High visibility
- » Safe toilets and amenities

**Appropriately Located** - Consider surrounding businesses and facilities.

**Deliberate and safe “hanging” spaces** that are visible but are not in the flow of movement of other people.

### Waiting and transition areas

Young people need to be able to safely get in and out  
Information on public transport available  
Safe and sheltered bus stops and car pick up areas



## APPEALING

**Socially credible** - young people want to go there to connect with the space.

**At arms length but within arms reach** - Young people want to connect with the wider community as well as purpose built youth space, however they prefer spaces which are slightly separated.

**Engaging** - young people want to be engaged in the space

**Involving** - young people are far more likely to use space which has had their input, involvement and investment throughout the design and concept stages



## ACCESSIBLE

**Physically accessible** - good disability access is essential.

Strong connectivity with **good public transport** can not underestimated.

**Reasonably priced** - activities, services and goods on offer should be affordable for young people.

Low cost **food options** close at hand.

**Connectivity to key youth spaces** such as public libraries, malls, sport facilities, community centres.



## RESOURCED

Easy access to relevant social services and support functions such as youth workers and medical professionals.

**Free Wifi** - or internet access.

**Low cost** or free pricing structures.

**Multi-use** - functional spaces with more than one purpose that are well-used

**Appropriate amenities** for what the space will be used for



## YOUTH FRIENDLY

**Vibrant and Alive** - a tidy, contemporary and colourful space that reflects young people and their subcultures.

**Welcoming** staff specifically trained to deal with young people (strong preference for Youth Workers over Security Guards)

**Embraces Young People** - a place where young people feel they are wanted and valued.

**Prioritises Youth Participation** - a space that includes young people as much as possible in the development.

# Youth Relevant Design

We are in the middle of a period when there are many exciting projects, developments and designs underway as part of the Christchurch Rebuild. Those of us representing the Youth Sector put together a brief overview of the youth perspective and the needs of young people within a city.

This has come from both literature, and from talking to young people in Canterbury. What we have developed are our 5 Factors in Youth Relevant Design.

## Youth Friendly Places and Spaces Work Stream - Who are we?

In 2012 a wide representation of the Youth Sector met at the Strengthening the Youth Sector Hui. From this Hui, and the subsequent 2013 Hui, 5 work streams arose that reflected areas of need highlighted by the sector in relation to young people and Youth Work in Greater Christchurch

We, the Youth Friendly Places and Spaces Work Stream include representatives from Youth Justice, Youth Health, Youth Venues, Youth Events, Youth Groups, Youth Councils, Crime Prevention and Education Sector.

We will soon be able to offer a free Youth Friendly Space Audit to give more detailed information to those interested on how youth friendly they are, and where areas for improvement could be.

*For any further information please contact Penny Prescott  
[penny@cantyouthworks.co.nz](mailto:penny@cantyouthworks.co.nz)*

## Reference Material

*Rebuilding Christchurch after the Earthquakes: Young Peoples Perspectives*  
*What do Young People Want for their City*  
*Public Spaces for Young People; A guide to Creative Projects and Positive Strategies*  
*Young People and Public Space: Developing Inclusive Policy and Practice*  
*Youth Health REsources and Contacts*  
*Greater Christchurch Youth Charter (Draft 2013)*  
*Waimakariri Youth Space Research, Wai Youth (Nov 2013)*

CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE APPEAL  
Tomorrow  
Starts Here.

