

***Zoe-Anne Fonteyn**
Senior Youth Worker

After studying Applied Social Science in Community Development at Goldsmith's University, I worked for the London Borough of Lewisham, where I gained the majority of my experience. I have mainly worked with 13 - 19 year olds, although I have also worked with a wider age range in voluntary organisations.

After ten years of working in Local Authorities I decided I would like to work for the voluntary sector, preferably with an organisation that had young people at the heart of what they do.

In 2009 I joined Brathay as a Senior Youth Worker. As part of the interview process I worked with two young people and they were very enthusiastic about what Brathay had done for them. One quote I remember concerning a member of staff was *"She gets out there and does the work - she don't sit behind a desk, and we know when youth workers really care."*

My first few days working for Brathay was an amazing experience; all the staff at Brathay are so focussed on providing positive outcomes for young people. At the Brixton office, London, where I am based, our range of projects include; work with gang members, leadership work, and work with young refugees.

I hope to stay with Brathay for years to come, as I see Brathay becoming the forefront for youth and community work across the country and I hope to be part of that.

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