Indicator 9: Young people manage friendships

Friendship timeline
This practical activity measures the length of friendships made through youth work as well as how young people maintain and manage those friendships through high points and low points in friendships.

- Give each young person a long sheet of paper (wall paper or similar)
- Ask them to draw a timeline from when they first got involved in youth work and divide the timeline up into relevant time periods.
- Ask young people to draw on the timeline each time they made a new friend through youth work (they don’t have to name the friend but can use an symbol or a stick person drawing)
- Ask young people to track the friendship on the timeline by drawing a line from the start of the friendship to the end of the friendship or the present time. Ask young people to use the friendship line to highlight the highs and lows of the friendship.
- Use the friendship timelines to discuss how young people managed the low points in their friendships
- Whilst not exact, it will give you an understanding of the longevity of friendships developed through youth work and how young people have managed them