

MONTHLY CHALLENGE

Listen to your child's thoughts about the future:

- Support & respect their decisions.
- Offer ideas about what you think they might be good at.
- Discuss how not making a choice gives someone else the power to make the choice for them.
- Include them in family discussions and decisions. Be sure to solicit their opinions if they are reluctant to share them.
- Introduce them to adults with a career they might be interested in.

External Assets

The first four asset categories focus on external structures, relationships, and activities that create a positive environment for young people.

-  Support
-  Empowerment
-  Boundaries & Expectations
-  Constructive Use of Time

Internal Assets

These assets reflect internal values, skills, and beliefs that young people also need to fully engage with and function in the world around them.

-  Commitment to Learning
-  Positive Values
-  Social Competencies
-  Positive Identity

listen Laugh inspire

listen



By Shauna Deathe

Finding our path... One of the most difficult and stressful things that a teenager has to face is planning for their lives. As a senior student at WDHS who is currently in the process of applying for university, I am well aware of how nerve wracking this process can really be. My advice for parents whose children are facing the same one, or even other, smaller choices is that as kids we need your advice, it's true, but what we don't need is you to make the decisions for us. Listen to our opinions and what we have to say, take our interests into consideration, allow us some room for mistakes - because that's how we learn best - but most importantly, remember that these are our lives and our futures. As much as you may want your son or daughter to be the next aspiring young doctor or lawyer or CFL star, that may not be what they want. Guide us, advise us, but don't force us, and we'll come back to thank you.

Laugh



inspire

Asset # 32 – Planning and Decision Making

34% of students know how to plan ahead and make choices*

*Results from Nov. 2012 survey of Grade 9 – 12 students at Waterdown District High School

