

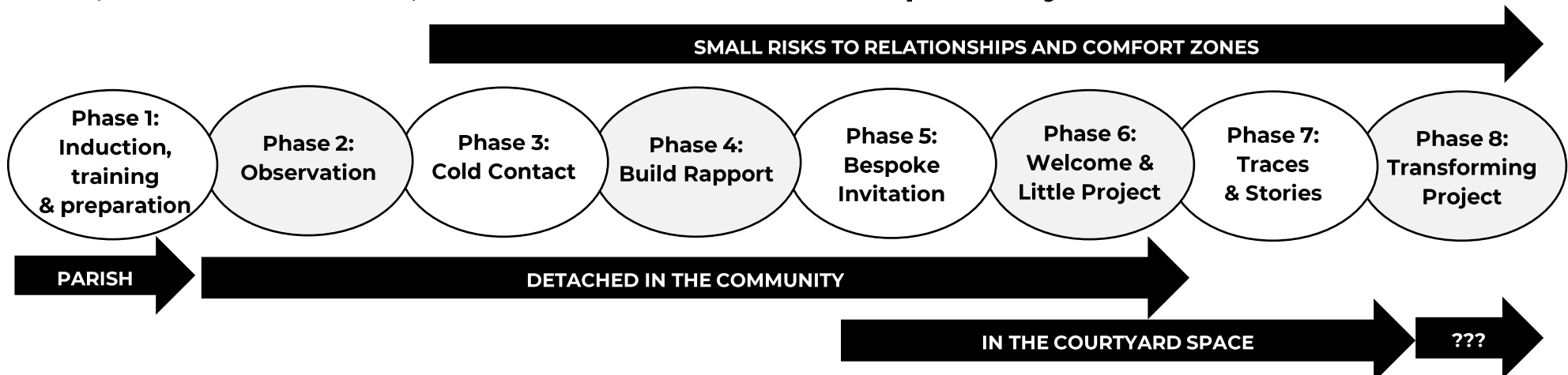
8 Phases to Courtyard Youth Work

“What will we do?” – initial activities will be provided by the parish, but always adapted for the young people we meet. Projects are shaped by young people.

“How do we get to that point?” – volunteers, think: “where is this group of young people, how do we move them forward?”



A simplified version for this process: **Contact** → **Relationships** → **Projects** → **Contribution back**



- 1. Induction, training & preparation:** exploring the vision and method of CY, parish plans their approach and training.
- 2. Observation:** getting to know the area, through Detached (streets/schools/services), refining an approach to each.
- 3. Cold Contact:** acknowledging, and saying hello to YP, introducing the Detached and ‘CY Space’ work.
- 4. Build Rapport:** purposeful and meaningful contact with YP over time, building awareness of CY and relationships.
- 5. Bespoke Invitation:** offering a specific reason to invite individuals or groups into the ‘CY Space’ or further work, bespoke to rapport built, relationships and opportunity, done carefully at the right time for the group and team.
- 6. Welcome & Little Project:** YP welcomed to the CY Space, their gifts direct suggested activities and Little Projects to further build rapport and a sense of belonging. This stage could also take place in a Detached way.
- 7. Traces & Stories:** noticing and retelling these helps to deepen the group’s sense of ‘belonging’ and their potential.
- 8. Transforming Project:** mutual relationships, their ideas and gifts facilitate YP to create to a youth-led project (good for them and others). They contribute back to the community, and deepen their sense of purpose in their lives.

N.B. talking about faith with young people and our own belief is always a possibility, but not one of our phases, as our process is based on how people normally make friends or begin a dialogue. A focus on our personal belief and challenging the belief of young people already ‘on the edge’, could alienate them further, especially in the first four phases. We are always open to being honest about our faith and our motivations for volunteering.