



## FRESH YOUTH THEATRE MANNINGHAM

Fresh Theatre for Social Change is an applied theatre company that provides youth theatre experiences for young people all over the state. Applied Theatre is the use of theatre to accomplish nontheatrical objectives. Fresh uses a range of applied theatre practices to bring about personal development in young people. Fresh is a not for profit theatre company that has been throughout Victoria for over eighteen years. In late 2013, in partnership with Manningham Uniting Church, Fresh opened its fifth theatre site, located in Wood Street, Templestowe.

Fresh Youth Theatre provides a forum for self-expression and social engagement. The Fresh program acknowledges the needs of young people by utilising the supportive nature of creative arts in promoting resilience, empowerment, personal growth, positive self-esteem and a sense of belonging.

Fresh engages young people aged 12 to 19 in two seasons a year. Employing talented directors and theatre practitioners, Fresh shows are innovative and original. Participants are given the opportunity to engage in the vital questions and messages interactively through the characters they perform and the stories they tell.

The creative team at Fresh Manningham is enthusiastic about beginning work on this season's production of 'Lamb's Bread'. Lamb's bread explores young people, barely beginning adulthood, desperate to experience life. Their choices are not always safe or easy, their freedom not always without consequences. Lives hang in the balance and bright futures are rapidly dimming in the collateral fall out of some simple but critical decisions.

Fresh Youth Theatres are built into a local community through collaboration with local organisations, youth agencies and local media. The audience attending performances provide support and encouragement that can be life long, contributing to young people's involvement and inclusion within local community.

'We come together to have fun making theatre, as we do we learn more about each other, ourselves and the world in which we live.' - Shaz Mullens (Theatre Founder)

**Fresh takes place on a Monday from 4pm to 6.30pm and provides afternoon tea and dinner. The Manningham Theatre is still looking for young performers to join them in season one 2018. For more information please contact 9846 2012 or [ruth.hodges@manninghamuc.org](mailto:ruth.hodges@manninghamuc.org).**