

Making Participation Work

Engaging Children and
Young People in Effective
Decision-making



Department
for Education





Making Participation Work



- A national programme funded by DfE
- Jointly delivered by CDC and KIDS
- Aims:
 - Children and young people are able to understand their rights and be involved in decision making
 - Practitioners understand how to involve children and young people in decisions about their support and care
 - Children and young people are able to influence policy and practice development – their voices are embedded in local strategic participation

What we have done to date



Sector Awareness

- Survey
- Mapping participation groups

Professional and Practitioner Support

- Participation Audit tool
- National conferences
- Regional learning events
- Co-production events
- Training, coaching, supporting
- Resources
- Sharing news and events

What we have done to date



Children and Young People's support

- National and regional participation groups
- Wider engagement
- Social media campaigns
- Blogs
- Young people's conferences
- Resources
- Roundtable meetings

Today



We will be sharing an overview of what Making Participation Work is doing to embed children and young people's participation and some of our current work.

- In particular we will look at:
- The mechanisms we use to frame our participation work
- A range of examples for how we support youth voice
- How we work at the strategic level
- What parent carers can do to support youth voice

Effective Engagement



Department
for Education



Importance of Participation



- To ensure that changes are based on the lived experiences of children and young people
- To uphold children's rights
- To fulfil legal responsibilities
- To improve services
- To improve decision making
- To promote children's protection (Sinclair and Franklin, 2000)
- Increase experience, skills, confidence, responsibility, independence, control, shows value and respect
- Enables us to provide better, more inclusive, effective services, where children feel ownership and are more engaged.

Participation as a Right

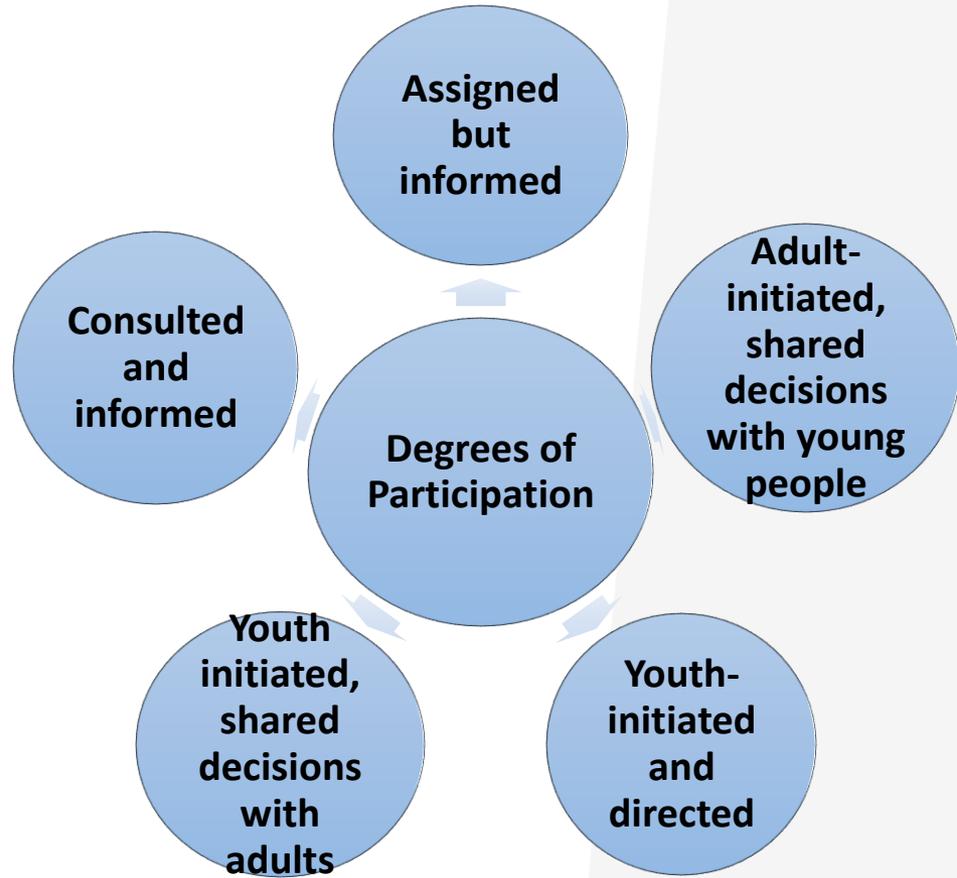


- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (specifically Articles 12, 13 and 23)
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People (Article 7)
- Equality Act (Duty to actively promote disability equality. Duty on providers to make reasonable adjustments)
- The Children Act 1989 (Section 17) and 2004 (Section 53)
- NHS Act 2006 (Section 242)
- Children and Families Act 2014 (Section 19)
- Various government initiatives, programmes and guidance

Lundy Model of Participation



Degrees of Participation



MPW in action

What we do and why



Young People's Participation Teams



KIDS currently hosts 3 internal and supports 2 external Young People's Participation Teams (YPPT)

Each group consists of young disabled people who have a developed understanding of participation and coproduction

The groups contribute to Making Participation Work (MPW) delivery through

- Supporting coproduction and delivery of support to Local Areas developing their SEND strategies
- Coproducing resources to aid development of other young disabled people's participation projects

Meet our Young People



Making Participation Work



Giving
disabled children
a brighter future



contact For families
with disabled children

NNPCF National Network of Parent Carer Forums

Making Participation Work is Funded By



Department
for Education

YP Participation in MPW - KIDS



- Develop bespoke workshops and learning for local areas
 - YPPT members co-design our workshops
 - Upskilling young people to co-deliver our learning
- Resources created for young people to support their participation skills development
 - Understanding of participation and co-production
 - Presentation skills
 - Working with professionals

Other Youth Participation from YPPT



- Consultation for office of the Children's Commissioner
- Feedback for Dept Education Behaviour Division
- Engagement with local authorities regarding a variety of consultation topics
- Engagement with OfSTED teams
- Support for staff recruitment, from front line workers to Chief Executive

CDC Engagement and Delivery



Engagement

Advisory Groups

Wider engagement
Focus groups

Surveys

Conferences

Young People

Professionals
(inc. Parents)

Learning

Resources

Toolkits

Digital Platforms

Twitter /
Instagram /
Facebook

Blogs and Vlogs

Forum

FLARE



Dedicated spaces



Youth Voice Matters

Children and Young People's Conference

A Making Participation Work Event

February 16th 2021



Are you excited to develop your voice?

Are you excited to participate in decision making?

Are you excited to hear from other children and young people with special needs and disabilities?

We are!

Resources



Top Tips

for professionals who support children and young people to participate in their Education, Health and Care plan



Participation Strategies

A resource for everyone involved in developing and delivering participation



FLARE's Top Tips For Professionals: Virtual communication with children and young people



Factsheet #8: Young Inspectors

What are Young Inspectors?

Young Inspectors are children and young people (CYP) who 'inspect' services and provide feedback to the services based on their own experiences and/or the experiences of other CYP to identify good practice and make recommendations for improvements.

There is no one 'right' way to run a team of Young Inspectors. However, this Factsheet provides some general guidance on establishing a group and supporting members' development. The steps in this Factsheet are based on <https://www.flare.org.uk>

Purpose

Establishing the purpose

Different bodies and organisations use Young Inspectors for different purposes. They may specialise in a particular type of service, such as health services or short breaks, or they may represent a particular demographic of children and young people (CYP), such as disabled CYP or looked after children. Equally, many Young Inspectors inspect a broad range of universal services.

When establishing your purpose, consider:

- Does the purpose reflect CYP's priorities regarding services improvement?
 - Use recommended involving CYP in establishing the purpose of the group.
- Is there genuine scope for influencing the services identified, resulting in positive change for CYP?
- Do other key stakeholders agree with and support your purpose? Think about:
 - Commissioning staff
 - Budget holders
 - Service Providers
 - CYP

Building a case for support

CYP participation groups such as Young Inspectors are often seen as 'nice to have'. However, it is possible to make a solid case for why Young Inspectors bring value to a local authority and individual services.

- Services better meet the needs of CYP
- Meaningful Young Inspectors are valued by Ofsted inspectors
- Improved communication with services
- CYP Inspectors are a source of evidence
- CYP have new opportunities to develop widely-applicable skills



How to share your views for your annual review

If you have an Education, Health and Care plan (sometimes called an EHCP) then once a year the Local Authority will hold an annual review of your support.

The people who should be invited to your annual review include:

- You
- Your parents or guardians
- Your head teacher
- Your SENCO
- People from the Local Authority
- Any professionals who work with you

You should be asked to give your views for your annual review. You may want to attend your annual review meeting, or you can note down your thoughts for someone to share for you.



Activity



Department
for Education



Current engagement



- We want to understand where CYP can support current strategic engagement
- Using the Miro Boards, pick some examples of current parent carer engagement
- Discuss in your groups how CYP can meaningfully support each of these different examples
- Are there any practicalities that we need to be mindful of when combining parent carer and CYP engagement?

Feedback from Young People



Louise and Carys



What messages would you like to share with the Parent Carer Conference?

Messages from Young People



- We like our parents / carers speaking for us sometimes
- We sometimes want different things to what our parent/carers want for us
- Back what we want
- We would like the chance to speak for what we want more
- Promote our voice, you don't need to speak for us all the time
- There is support, use it
- Thank you for supporting us
- Yes we have disabilities and may need support, but we are growing up and want independence
- Be realistic – celebrate our milestone achievements (which may be different to other children and young people's)

Messages from Young People



Project suggestions for joint CYP and PCF working

(An example of existing joint working is Positive Deviance project with Hampshire County Council)

- Improving the Local Offer
- SENDIASS – why different people access or not
- Employment for young people with SEND
- Mental health – looking at recognising people's mental health, receiving support in early stages of diagnosis and services available

Messages from Young People



How PCFs can support Young People's engagement:

- Champion our voices
- Champion what we want
- Get people to listen to us
- Work alongside us – not always as one team

Messages from Young People



How Young People can support PCFs:

- Talking to people and sharing experiences
- Swapping skills
- Working alongside – not always as one team

Activity



Department
for Education



Priorities



In your breakout rooms discuss:

- Do you know where CYP engagement activity is happening in your local area?
- Can parent carers support information sharing and collaboration between groups?
- What are the priorities for CYP and parent carer engagement?
 - Based on today's information and conversations where can we start to strengthen links between parent carer and CYP engagement
 - Use the whiteboard in your breakout group to make notes

Thank you!



Get in touch to discuss your support needs

- CDC via Joanna Carr at jcarr@ncb.org.uk
- KIDS at takepart@kids.org.uk
- Following us at @MOH_Tweets or @Kidscharity

Join the MOH forum



**Scan the QR Code with your phone camera to join the
Making Ourselves Heard forum**

