



Youth Participation *'What Works'*

**‘Participation is a process
where someone influences
decisions about their lives
and this leads to change’.**

Treseder (1997)

Drivers For Youth Participation

- **Statutory / Legal obligations**
- **Good business sense / Value for money**
- **Good for CYP / Community**

Core Principles For Real, Meaningful Participation

- Listen to CYP uninhibited by their age or your age
- Consider participation as a continuing part of core business, not an event
- Be clear about the achievements of participation
- Weave the involvement of CYP into the culture of your organisation and wider society

Listening / Consultation

‘Listening needs to affect change’

Examples: Tell Us Survey

Resources: NCB Participation Team can help you self assess/audit your work

How To Involve Children and Young People in Formal Meetings

Strategic Planning

‘Strategies are needed to fulfill the rights of CYP under the UNCRC to be involved in all decisions affecting their lives’

Examples: Barnsley Youth Council

Cornwall Youth Forum

Lambeth Youth Council

Resources: BCP training and consultancy

Influencing Decision-making

‘Undertaking meaningful and sustainable participation requires organisations to change’

Examples : What’s changed participation outcomes tool

Sunderland Children’s Trust

Resources: An Equal Place at the Table for Children and Young People (National Participation Forum)

Skilled Staff

‘Meaningful participation is a process’

Examples: CWDC

Hertfordshire Local Authority

Resources: Participation Works Training and
Consultancy

Evaluation

‘There are different cultures of participation and organisations need to be clear about their reasons for undertaking participation and how they plan to develop this work in the future’

Examples : Young Researchers

Resources: Measuring the Magic: Evaluating and researching young people’s participation in public decision-making

Inclusion

‘Participation is a many layered concept’

Examples: Council for Disabled Children

Life Routes programme on volunteering

Youth inspections

Resources: How To courses (Faith and Culture, ‘Hard To Reach’)

Quality of Engagement

‘Acting on CYP’s views brings positive change’

Examples: Co-training Project

Saying Power

Resources: How To Commissioning Course

National Confidential Feedback Service



Participation Works

8 Wakley Street

London EC1V 7QE

T: 0207 833 6803

enquiries@participationworks.org.uk

www.participationworks.org.uk

Registered charity number 258825