

Practitioner barriers to young people's participation

Barrier type – young people and their needs

These barriers were identified at the Making Participation Work Practitioner Conference in October 2022. Methods of overcoming came from fellow practitioners and young people who are part of The Collective



Map groups and visit more than 1

Reach out to the community – community leaders and informal groups may be able to help engage YP and gatekeepers



Ask YP to define how they are involved and what topics

Barrier – Getting enough YP and being representative

Still asking – some info is better than none!



writing/drawing with dry wipe pens on tables

flexibility within the session - ask the YP and keep checking in. not always formal



Preparation for adulthood skills - e.g., cooking etc



Activities e.g., going bowling to create a fun/safe environment to gain YP views.



Sensory art packs / messy play / art and craft

playing games - doing things YP want us to do / deliver



Using life size cut-outs of humans

Barrier – Making it fun and balancing participation with social needs of young people

Competitions



Podcasts

audio/video options using avatars created by the young person

Turn over for more barriers and tips to help get over them



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Barrier type – young people and their needs

Opportunities for incentives – these don't always have to be tangible



Get experienced YP to engage their peers



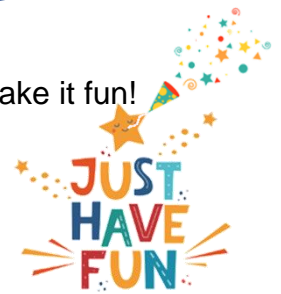
Having volunteers that YP can see themselves represented in

Go to them!

Share how YP have previously been involved and the impact they made

Barrier – Engaging YP outside of forums and those reluctant to engage (reasons may be that you don't have the relationships or that YP are not trusting of practitioners/ adults)

Make it fun!



Bring a YP from your group - this can help engage other YP who may be nervous

Places like the doctors' surgeries are important to remember to advertise



Put up posters in community spaces



Barrier – Accessing YP who are not in employment, education, or training (NEET)

Use social media



Advertise to parents – they are often looking for something to get YP out of the house or to do something



Offer information in different formats and allow YP to choose what they engage with and how



Pairing up YP for shadowing and peer support

Barrier – Delivering groups for both YP with SEND and those without



Offer a range of activities for YP to participate in