

Kids Advisory Panel – Session Summary

Theme: Shaping the Future – Kids Strategy 2030

Date & Time: Monday 30th June, 6:00–7:30pm

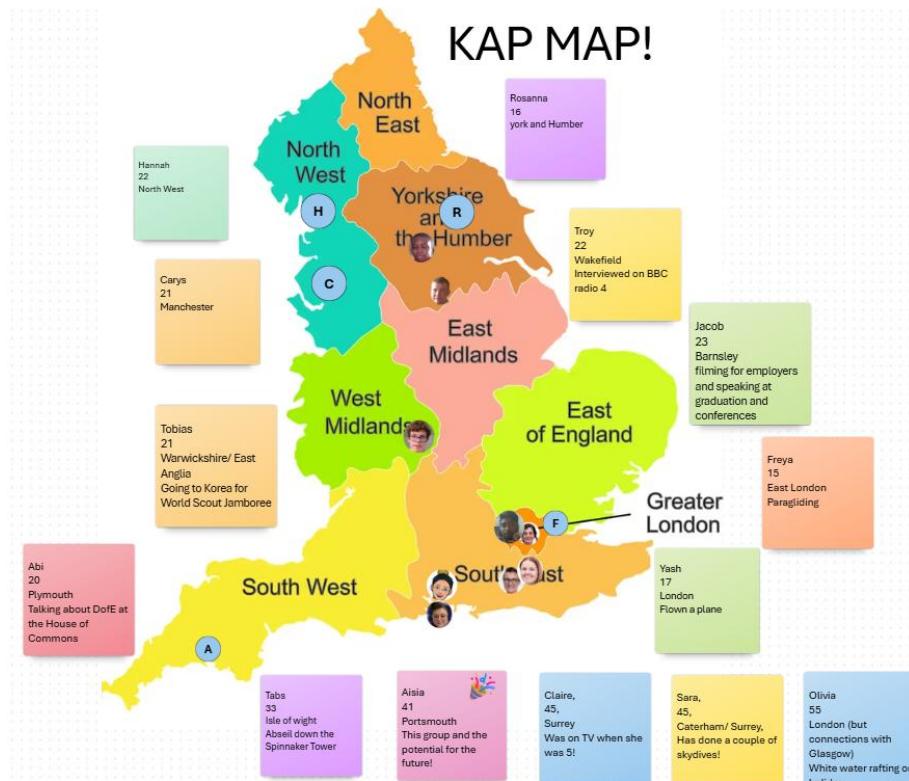
Participants: Young people (6 YP) from the Kids Advisory Panel, Sara and Olivia 'The YP champion Trustees', Claire 'The Listening Leader', Aisia and Tab - Youth Voice Team.

Welcome & Icebreaker Activities (appendices 1)

Purpose: Introductions, build rapport, create a safe space, and energise the group.

Activities:

- - Introductions! Name, age, where you are from and most exciting thing you have ever done!
- - Emoji Check-In: All attendees pick an emoji that represents how they're feeling and then discuss why it was chosen.
- - Vision Wall: Ask YP to write or draw one thing they'd love to see change for disabled children and young people by 2030.



- “Two Truths and a Dream”: A twist on “Two Truths and a Lie” – All share two true things about themselves and one dream for their own future.

Exploring the Vision! (appendices 2)

Question: In 2030, what should rights and opportunities look and feel like in everyday life for disabled children, young people and their families?

Activity: "Postcards from the Future" YP imagine it's the year 2030 and they're writing a postcard to their now self.

"Dear 2025 me, life now is amazing because..."

Young people thoughts about key areas including: school, home, work, transport, healthcare, fun and friendships are like.

Dear 2025 Me

Life now is amazing because...

Use the spaces below to write or draw about how things have changed in different parts of everyday life. You can describe what's different, what rights you have, and what new opportunities are open to you or other young people!

What's different now?

What rights do you have that make life better?

What opportunities are open to you?



2030

Monday 30th June

School/College



Write or draw here:

Support in school is good. Curriculum is flexible. Teachers and staff have more understanding better training about disabilities. Access requirements and arrangements are made.

Home



Write or draw here:

We have the right support at home and now have a wheelchair accessible vehicle so can go out as a whole family. More supported housing. Cheaper rent.

Work



Write or draw here:

Employers are accepting and supportive of SEND. Awareness of supported internships and help to get in to work – no matter what career.

What's different now?
What rights do you have that make life better?
What opportunities are open to you?

Transport



Write or draw here:

Reliable, simple to use, accessible (more than 1 wheelchair), environmentally friendly, affordable and lower waits

Healthcare



Write or draw here:

NHS is fixed! Everyone can access support for mental health. Waiting times are reduced. Healthcare is better than it's ever been.

Friendships



Write or draw here:

Peers have good understanding. They know the limits for banter & jokes. More funded spaces to be social and interact. I have a good social network

Any other thoughts?

Use the space below to share any other thoughts you have.

Write or draw here:

We teach everyone about SEND, not just healthcare/SEND services. But shopping centres, cinemas, everyday places that young people go.

Accessibility – everyone mentioned it so clearly a problem. By 2030 we should see an improvement (but it's only 4.5 yrs).

To:

From:

"Same life opportunities for everyone. High aspirations for everyone"

"Young people with SEND have the support, services and funding they need to be part of society, work and social spaces"

"Attitudes changed; inclusive, kind and driven by 'can do' not 'can't do' "

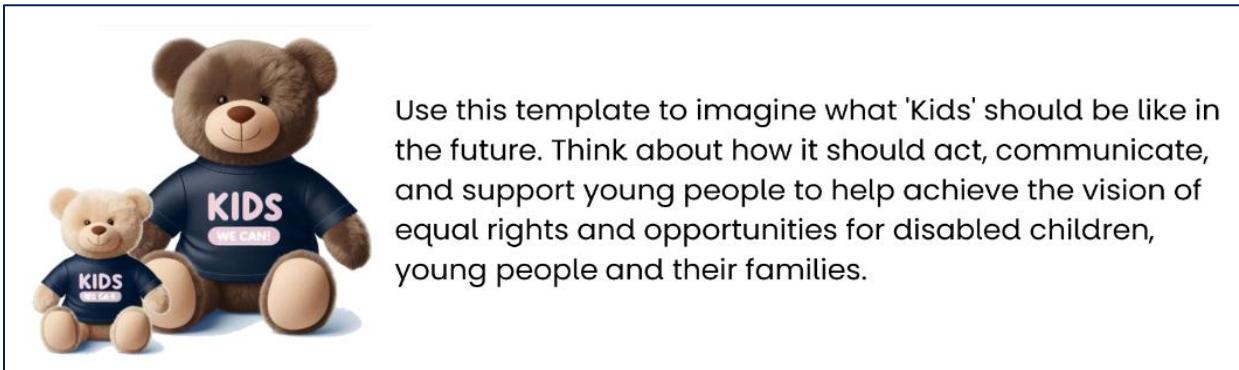
"Young people have the opportunity to be heard and are listened to!"

More young people's comments (including those submitted by non-attendees via the posted out resources) can be found in the appendices

Designing the Organisation! (appendix 3)

Question: What kind of organisation would Kids need to be for this vision to be realised?

Activity: "Build-a-Kids" Workshop. Each group gets a "Kids Organisation Blueprint section":



- What should Kids say?

Labels – don't just use them to describe YP. They are more than diagnosis etc and that whatever they may be, it is unique and special to them.

Some might not want to be labelled as disabled, adding neurodiverse for those who might want to be labelled differently

- What should Kids do?

YP coming together and talking to decision makers together, using our own voices and cutting out middlemen.

- How should Kids treat people?



- (What should Kids stand up for?) Young people to share these on sheets provided.

Young people shared highlights from each section in the meeting (all ideas can be seen in appendices)

Wrap-Up & Next Steps

Young people were thanked for their contributions and informed that their input from the meeting as well as any additional feed in from the handouts, would be shared with Trustees, as well as with the Department for Education.

Young people made it clear they want these messages to be shared and they want to be further engaged and part of developing plans to ensure they are part of change!

"The whole point of Co production.... It's about actually including our voices, but also other young people's voices and those lived experiences coming together to really empower that change"

The young people and other attendees shared a one word check out on how they are feeling at the end of the session. Appendix 4.

listened
passionate
enlightened ready

excited
fulfilled happy great
empowered
session
amazing

Appendices 1.

Attendees introduction activities:

Sara – Caterham, Surrey- 45 yr young/old – skydives! 😊 picked her favourite emoji, spends a lot of time rolling her eyes at the world (as does her daughter and it makes her laugh)

Truth 1: I'm a working class woman, originally from Essex, and that's something that is a really important part of my identity. Truth 2: I'm going on a holiday to the Isle of Wight in July (Ryde) as it's one of my favourite holiday destinations. Dream: to run the London Marathon if I can ever get a place!

Tobias – 21 – Warwickshire/ East Anglia – Korea with Scouts (went horribly and was evacuated but still exciting) 😊 mild blown as just come off of 3 weeks hospital placement and going into 3 weeks of exams. Not the most fun especially given the heat.

Truth 1: I am very sporty (volleyball, tennis, hockey and I have taken up running. I actually became captain this year for my volleyball team and got from 7th last season to winning this season!) Truth 2: I am a medical student (going to be a doctor in a few years!) Dream: Probably something to do with fixing NHS/healthcare, to make easy access and equal (very good) outcomes. Maybe a bit big of a dream

Freya – 15 – East London – Paragliding.

Truths; I have a pet parrot. I really like baking and dream to become a lawyer and own a bakery.

Yash – 17 – London – Flown a plane. 😊 so hot today and school/ classrooms had no aircon and it's hot in the loft room.

I have volunteered with multiple small charities and I have spoke on some panels before and my dream is to watch a champions League match at Anfield

Claire – 45 years young – Surrey – Was on TV when she was 5! 😊 celebration, hands in the air highlight of the day.

Truths: I can speak French. I have started playing football and tried cricket for first time in my life in my 40s – yay! Dream: it is to make the world a better place for children and young people

Tabs – 33 – Isle Of Wight – Abseiled down the spinnaker tower 😊 smile, blue skies, seas, we're here, what is there to not smile about.

1- I'm a massive Dr Who fan and got to meet Jodie Whittaker in London last year

2 - I'm a lover of everything rainbows! Dream - My dream is for spaces to be equitable, and I'd love to run some kind of accessible venue/ events

Jacob - 23 - Barnsley - lots of exciting stuff, filming for employers and speaking at graduations and conferences 😊 excited for group and making a positive change.

Truths - I really love lasagne and I work at metal health hospital and my dream to pass first aid course.

Troy - 22 - Wakefield - Interviewed on BBC radio 4 😊 excited, cool, empowered, kickstart this to make a big difference.

My two truths are I am Activist/Content creator. I write poetry. My dream is the work I do making a difference everyday can really empower change and really create a legacy to create this movement for young people with SEND to have a voice to be who they want be and fit in and even run a youth forum group to inspire or even be prime minster. 😊

Olivia - 55 - London but lived in Glasgow for a long time - white water rafting on holiday. 🌊 really excited to be part of this group

Truth 1) I am Jewish, and I love being part of the Jewish community. but lots of Jewish people are facing a lot of prejudice at the moment, so it can be a bit tough sometimes. Truth 2) I started learning the guitar when I was an adult, and it was really hard but so much fun. My dream: is to make a difference with my job and my life generally

Abi - 20 - Plymouth - went to the house of Commons and talked about DofE 😊 excited to be here.

I like domino's pizza. I like swimming. My dream is to speak in house of commons in front of top government about send and how it's affected me.

Aisia - 41 years young - Portsmouth - Getting this group off the ground and started!! 🎉 party as she's so excited and celebration of the great things she knows is coming from this group.

I live in a house of boys! I love pink and sparkly things. Dream to get this group in front of decision makers within the year

All about Me from the trustees....

All about me...

Preferred name: **Sara**

Preferred pronouns: **She/Her**

Organisation: **Kids**

Job title: **Trustee**



What are you currently working on (as a trustee)? I'm a member of the People, Culture and Governance committee and am currently involved in recruiting new trustees, in particular people with lived experience of being disabled.

Why do you want to speak to young people? Because they are the experts in their own lives and it's important the people we are here to serve are heard and that we deliver work that they want and need.

3 words to describe you: **passionate, committed and determined.**

3 things you want to do in life:

- ★ 1. To help drive change and contribute to the goal of achieving equity for both working class and disabled people, drawing on my lived experience as a working-class young person, and lived insight as a child of a disabled woman.
- ★ 2. To travel more and walk the Great Wall of China.
- ★ 3. Run the London Marathon!

Fun facts about you! (These could be hobbies, likes and dislikes e.g. food, TV and film)

1. I run for fun (and exercise!)
2. I write rhyming children's stories as a hobby.
3. I like eating chocolate and popcorn together: one part M&M or Button and two parts popcorn!



Co-designed

Kids

All about me...

Preferred name: **Olivia**

Preferred pronouns: **she/her**

Organisation: **Holocaust Memorial Day Trust**

Job title: **Chief Executive**



What are you currently working on (as a trustee)?

I'm on the People, Culture and Governance Committee, which helps Kids be a great place to work, and makes sure we do things properly.

Why do you want to speak to young people?

Young people are the heart of Kids – everything we do is to try and make the world a better place for disabled young people, so we need to hear what young people have to say

3 words to describe you: **Enthusiastic, empathetic, thoughtful**

3 things you want to do in life:

- ★ Make a difference to the world around me
- ★ Bring up my kids to be kind people who contribute to their communities
- ★ Make sure disabled people are able to be in all the spaces that non-disabled people are

Fun facts about you! (These could be hobbies, likes and dislikes e.g. food, TV and film)

As an adult, I learnt to play the guitar (it was ~~sooooo~~ hard!).

I enjoy doing park-run. I have one dog and one cat.



Co-designed

Kids

Appendices 2.

Visions for 2030

“young people with SEND to get the same opportunities as others”

“Making sure people understand Autism”

“How young people are treated in education is better and how they are helped within their studies”

“For young people to have aspirations that they’re supported to achieve, and for other people to have higher aspirations for young people”

“Accessibility for young people to have opportunities make it inclusive and better education system in supporting those in preparing for adulthood and employment and navigating the world.”

“If total equality was too much to ask for by 2030 (in education, healthcare but most importantly accessing sports, green areas, social spaces and having fun). Maybe I will just have to stick with setting up a plan and starting action towards this equality”

“For there to be true equity for disabled children and young people – starting with real and meaningful access to play, education, work and society at large”

“For young people with SEND to have the support, services and funding they need to be able to be part of society / work / social spaces etc”

“Attitude change - inclusive, kind, driven by 'can-do' not 'can't-do'.”

“I think they should young people with send get free transport such as bus pass to places so could mean improve their requirements and help young people to get adulthood by help get into work, running social clubs and much more.”

“I personally believe there's more opportunities for 18+ now but not enough for 14-18s and is much tougher to make friends at that age”

“everything mentions accessibility so it's clearly a problem. It won't be completely gone by 2030 as that's only 4 ½ years away but at least we should see improvement”

“for young people with send to have the same opportunities as others, and for them to be given the support they need for them to have the same chances. So we're all equal”

Postcard from the future – vision 2030

Education

- More support is given during exam time. Less stressful period. More help in school.
- You're given more help within our school,
- The curriculum's a little bit more flexible and allows for you to study in a more accessible and more in a way that you can understand.
- Teachers have got more understanding, better training about disabilities.
- Access requirements and arrangements are made quickly.
- Good support in school and college, they helped me in exams, went through the access arrangements and put me in a separate room.

Home

- We have the right support at home and now have a wheelchair accessible vehicle so can go out as a whole family.
- There is more supported housing.
- Cheaper rent

Work

- More awareness of supported internship/ project search who help people get into work, no matter what career area.
- Employers not only accept SEND but are supportive.
- There is help to get in to work no matter what career you want.

Transport

- Transport reliable, simple to use, built accessibly (more than 1 wheelchair), environmentally friendly and affordable.

- Routes take you to places you actually want to go!
- Healthcare
- The NHS is fixed!
- there's a big thing about mental health. Everyone should get the support they need, and everyone should have the opportunities.
- Everyone having equal outcomes, stopping healthcare trauma and anxiety. Giving people good timely healthcare access.
- Waiting times are reduced and you can get appointments when needed.
- Healthcare is better than it's ever been!

Friends

- Peers understand what people might be going through and through workshops and education know what is a joke and what could be too far and bullying.
- Opportunities for youth clubs, create space to socialise and interact. More youth voice groups as we need more opportunities to hear from people with SEND.
- I am able to build a good social network, making friends and doing the things I enjoy

Other things that are important!

We teach everyone about SEND, not just healthcare/SEND services. But shopping centres, cinemas, everyday places that young people go.

Accessibility – everyone mentioned it so clearly a problem. By 2030 we should see an improvement (but it's only 4.5 yrs).

Same life opportunities for everyone. High aspirations for everyone

Young people have the opportunity to be heard and are listened to!

Appendices 3

Build a kids

What should Kids say (and not say)? Key language and messages (Freya, Sara and Yash)

- Labels – don't just use them to describe YP. They are more than diagnosis etc and that whatever they may be it is unique and special to them.
- Some might not want to be labelled as disabled, adding neurodiverse for those who might want to be labelled differently

What Kids should do? Actions, services, new things to support vision of inclusive world for YP with SEND (Tobias, Olivia and Abi)

- YP coming together and talking to decision makers together, using our own voices and cutting out middle men along the way
- Making sure EHCPs done on time and actioned
- Listening to our voice, listening to what we got to say and actually creating that space for us to have a voice and for us to talk to those professionals and decision makers to be able to make a difference. What are we going to do about it? To create a plan of action?

How should Kids treat people? How should we be behaving, what should we be doing? (Jacob, Troy and Claire)

- Respect. Everyone treated right, feels valued and heard
- Kindness
- Accountability. Aiming to actually do things. And actually doing it and not saying like in six months, you're going to get this done actually and do it now because it's important. It's about actually listening to those young people's opinions and values and their views, but also the families views their listening to really take action and to really make sure that things are moving faster instead of making it slow"
- Inclusivity. Making it inclusive for everybody and not just like individuals. Everybody needs to be a part of this. Everyone needs to be part of this whole movement of making a difference.

? How to show that we are being accountable – bringing people together to people who can make a difference, following through with these plans.

"The whole point of Co production.... It's about actually including our voices, but also other young people's voices and those lived experiences coming together to really empower that change"

Appendices 4:**1 word check out from the meeting.**

Enlightened

Empowered

Passionate

Great session

Excited

Excited fulfilled

Excited

Ready

Happy

Happy

Listened too

Very warm

Amazing

Excited

listened
passionate
enlightened ready
excited
fulfilled happy great
empowered
session
amazing