

Young Researcher Network – impact on young people

The Young Researcher Network builds young people's resilience and competencies to support their decision making about their lives and futures. It educates, develops understanding and helps to improve outcomes for young people.

Young Researcher Network – impact on services and organisations

The Young Researcher Network helps services and organisations by:

- Informing policy development and the implementation of existing and new services
- Evaluating the success of stories
- Producing annual reports on young people's services by young people
- Assisting services where public engagement is part of the brief but there is limited knowledge of how to involve young people
- Designing research materials for organisations
- Supporting young people to make a positive contribution to the local evidence base through information and knowledge generated by young people.

Whether you're a young person interested in research or an organisation wanting to know what young people think, find out more and access a range of useful free resources, at:

www.nya.org.uk/youngresearchernetwork



Contact the National Youth Agency's Young Researcher Network at:

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Young Researcher Network

We value, support and encourage research led by young people.



What does the Young Researcher Network do?

The Young Researcher Network combines advocacy and participation with young people led research to achieve better outcomes for children and young people at the local, regional and national level.

Why do we need the Young Researcher Network?

Much research is done on children and young people but less 'with' or 'by' them. The Young Researcher Network empowers young people to undertake high quality research to influence and shape children's and youth support services. In doing so it contributes to youth policy that will in turn help to secure positive outcomes for children and young people.

Who belongs to the Young Researcher Network?

The Young Researcher Network is led by the National Youth Agency. It comprises a network of organisations including the National Children's Bureau (NCB), the Diana Awards, Mencap, Bradford Integrated Youth Support Services, the Open University, UK Youth and many others that support children and young people's active involvement in research.

"Having the Young Researchers Network at our event created a lively and interactive atmosphere and reminded us of the positive contribution young people make."

Susie Roberts, Confederation of Heads of Young People's Services

"The YRN members I worked with on a special youth edition of Society Guardian were not only insightful and enthusiastic but full of great ideas."

Saba Salman, Journalist



Areas of research

Over the last two years young researchers from the network have completed research in the following areas:

- volunteering
- alcohol use
- media
- health
- identity
- disability
- looked after young people
- hate crime and restorative justice
- the local youth offer
- black and minority ethnic sexual health.

Other work includes:

- Providing an editorial group for the *Guardian's* Young People Supplement
- Contributing to the drafting of the Council of Europe's 2020 e-inclusion Strategy for Young People
- Recording and reporting on the launch of the Confederation of Heads of Young People's Services (CHYPS)
- Judging *Children and Young People Now* magazine's annual awards.

The Young Researcher Network also helps to disseminate research findings and recommendations across the fields of youth and policy.

Working with the Young Researcher Network

The Young Researcher Network provides specialist support in all aspects of peer-led and participatory research. It offers innovative services in consultancy and training to those wishing to establish or embed young researchers within their own organisations.

The Young Researcher Network works with organisations in local and central government, health and social care, community safety, education, the media, and the voluntary and private sectors. It also provides research training for organisations and young people keen to undertake young people led research.

