



DORSET YOUTH COUNCIL

# Dorset Youth Council Application form

Think you can...

Change something about your area?

Make sure young people get their voices heard?

Influence decision-makers?

If so, you could

be a member of...

**Dorset Youth Council**



*September 2019*

# Welcome

The Dorset Youth Council is made up of young people who are interested in developing campaigns, events and projects about issues that are important to them and ensuring that every young person can have a say in decisions that affect them. These young people are recruited from: youth clubs, schools, voluntary organisations and young people who live in Dorset.

Dorset Youth Council can be involved in two main areas of work. They can be involved in projects or event management to highlight particular problems young people face across Dorset.

## What's in it for me?

- Lots of fun!
- Accreditation
- Impact positive change
- FREE food! T-shirt! Hoodie!
- Represent others in their communities
- The opportunity to have your voice heard
- A chance to find out more about your local community
- A reference for school/ college/ university/ employment
- Meet new people from across Dorset, South West and the UK

## What's in it for us?

- Youth champions and future leaders from the community
- Opportunities to get a young person's take on things
- To make sure we are doing what's right for young people

Becoming a youth councilor gives you the chance to make your mark. You will be able to air your views, meet other young people, and tell decision makers what should really be happening for young people in your area.

## As a Dorset Youth Council member, you can...

- Go to events and get involved in special projects
- Represent young people locally, regionally and nationally
- Be in front of the TV cameras and on radio shows, celebrating the work that you do
- Meet local councilors and other decision-makers to talk about issues affecting young people

Anyone aged 11-18 who lives; works or studies in Dorset can apply to be a member of Youth Council.

## We're looking for someone who...

- Has a sense of humour
- Can work as part of a team
- Isn't afraid to speak their mind
- Is committed, lively and outgoing
- Takes their responsibilities seriously
- Asks for support, advice and help if needed
- Has an interest in issues affecting young people
- Is able to listen to and respect the views of young people
- Is prepared to volunteer a maximum of 2 hours a week (outside of school hours)

## Interested?

If so, please fill out the next few pages and return to us at [dorset@participationpeople.com](mailto:dorset@participationpeople.com) or post to: Youth Participation, Dorset County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ.

The Youth Council meets the first and third Thursday of every month 6pm – 8pm at the Dorset Youth Association, Lubbecke Way, Dorchester DT1 1QL.

## Questions?

 [dorset@participationpeople.com](mailto:dorset@participationpeople.com)  07841 015814



@DCYouthVoice

# Role description

## Dorset Youth Council member

(Please detach this page from your application and keep for your reference)

### Dorset Youth Council

The Dorset Youth Council is made up of young people who are passionate about getting young people's voices heard. They are from a diverse range of backgrounds, faiths, ages and genders.

They will have one year in post and are either involved in youth-led campaigns or training young people and adults in their areas on youth participation.

### What is the purpose of Dorset Youth Council?

- To support children and young people in getting their voices heard
- To work on creative campaigns – e.g. leading on consultation / awareness raising / doing a policy review / peer work education / working with local service provision etc
- To train young people and professionals on how they can best involve young people in decision making in their local area
- To create sustainable projects which could be continued by local groups
- To engage and encourage children and young people in participation activities
- To shape future youth councils to make it 'fit for purpose'

### I will...

- Have received accreditation
- Be trained in delivering consultation, communications, public speaking skills and peer work
- Developed, designed and delivered a campaign or training package for adults and young people
- Create an awareness with decision makers about the importance of involving young people in the decision-making process
- Had my work showcased locally, regionally and nationally

### Dorset Youth Council membership

To ensure a strong, creative and empowered Youth Council, it is necessary to ensure that it is representational of the youth population in Dorset. The membership will partly be sought through partners (schools and youth centres), open applications and targeted recruitment.

### What help can I expect?

- Accredited training in communication skills, meeting skills, public speaking, confidence and influencing skills
- A support worker who will help you get the most out of your experience
- A jargon buster
- A reference for employers/ college/ university
- A Dorset Youth Council handbook [coming soon 2019/20]

# Your details

**First name:**

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**Surname:**

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**Address:**

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**Postcode:**

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**Gender:**

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**Ethnicity:**

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**Date of Birth:**

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**Home phone number:**

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**Mobile number:**

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**Email:**

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**Ethnicity:**

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**Name of Emergency Contact:**

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**Number for Emergency Contact:**

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**Emergency Contact's Relationship to you:**

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**Are you a member of any of the following groups (please tick all that apply)**

- |                          |                          |                        |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| UK Youth Parliament      | <input type="checkbox"/> | School Council         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health Ambassadors       | <input type="checkbox"/> | Youth Council or Forum | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Children in Care Council | <input type="checkbox"/> | Voluntary organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Do you attend another group not listed above, if so, please write it here:**

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**Do you go to school in Dorset? If so, which one?**

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**Do you go to a youth centre in Dorset? If so, which one?**

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When answering the following questions, think about what we are looking for and try to include this in your answers... (please write no more than 50 words per answer and link it to what we are looking for...!)

**Why do I want to be a Dorset Youth Council member?**

**What skills and qualities would I bring to the role?**

**What do I want to achieve for young people of Dorset?**

# Application signatures

Everything I have written in this form is accurate and up to date. If any of my personal details change, I agree to let Participation People know within 7 working days.

To be signed by young person and parent/ legal guardian

Signed (Young Person):
Print:
Date:

Name and signature of Parent/ Legal Guardian endorsing your application (if you are under 18):

Signed:
Print name:
Date:

Please note, there will also be a consent form to complete which contains information on how your data is processed, stored and used AND how to access it.

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