

Engage Your School with the SEND Youth Forum

Oxfordshire County Council has formed the [SEND Youth Forum](#) to gather the views of children and young people (CYP) with SEND, aiming to foster a more inclusive system. The forum collects and acts on the perspectives of CYP with SEND, ensuring broad representation, including those in alternative placements or electively home educated.

Our goals

- **Choice and Involvement:** Championing young people's right to choose and be involved in decisions.
- **Diverse Representation:** Ensuring equal opportunities for involvement for individuals with varying needs.
- **System Transformation:** Driving positive change and enhancing support systems.
- **Informed Decision-Making:** Ensuring young people's experiences inform decision-making processes.

How Your School/setting Can Help

- Sign up and arrange focus groups with mixed groups of CYP with SEND.
- Share the views of participants with the SEND Youth Forum.
- Support will be provided throughout the process.

The role of schools and settings:

- To sign up for and arrange focus groups with mixed groups of children and young people with SEND, (those with an EHCP, on the SEN Register or have emerging SEND needs).
- We will provide you with a theme/topic and some prompts for questions, but it is up to your facilitator on how they want to run the focus group e.g. group discussions or 1:1s. This will depend on the need of the CYP. Please feel free to be creative!
- To act as a conduit, sharing the views of participants with the SEND Youth Forum, and sharing the responses in the following months.
- Please be reassured we will be supporting you throughout the whole process.
- Per cycle (every 3 months) we are looking for 5 primary mainstream, 3 secondary 2 special school settings plus 1 Alternative Provision (AP). We've made plans to speak to teams who work in Alternative Provision to make sure CYP who are not accessing education are included.
- No more than 15 cyp per group (this can be flexible).

SEND Youth Forum [Animation Video](#) - hear from some of our amazing young people

Join the SEND Youth Forum Coffee Drop-In!

Connect with Jo and Lydia online for a relaxed Q&A session.

When: Friday, 9th January, 4:00–4:30pm

Reserve your spot: SENDYoungPeople@OXfordshire.gov.uk

How to get involved

The upcoming feedback cycle will take place from 12th January to 03rd February.

During this period, the focus will be on the topic of **Mental Health & Wellbeing**.

If your school is interested in helping us, please email us by Friday 09th January.

We look forward to hearing from you!

SENDYoungPeople@OXfordshire.gov.uk.