

Strengthening Youth Voice in SEND: Learning from National Programme

The two co-leads of Oxfordshire SEND Youth Forum, Lydia Martin & Jo Hoskin has been part of the What Works in SEND (WWiS) Youth Voice Learning Community, working alongside seven other local authorities to strengthen how children and young people with SEND influence local decision-making.

We are proud to continue working alongside other local authorities as a critical friend, sharing learning, celebrating progress, and supporting improvement across the wider SEND system.

The programme highlighted that there is no single approach to youth voice, but successful systems balance a core youth forum with wider participation through school-based groups and other creative engagement methods.

In Oxfordshire, the SEND Youth Forum continues to play a key role in shaping services, with a growing network of school-based 'satellite' groups enabling more young people to share their views locally and contribute to countywide priorities.

The learning reinforces the importance of co-production, strong partnerships with schools, and clear feedback loops so young people can see how their views are making a difference.

Check out the [full report](#) and [video](#) from the learning event in March.

If you want to be involved in the Oxfordshire SEND Youth Forum, contact us SENDYoungPeople@oxfordshire.gov.uk check out our information page [SEND Youth Forum | OXME.INFO](#)

