

Members' Information Pack

Introduction

To give young people (11 to 16 years) and young adults (17-25 years) a voice to equip them with the resources to highlight their ideas for change, a Youth Board and Young Adults Group has been formed. With your help, we want to make coming to hospital the best possible experience it can be. The Youth and Young Adults Group (YYA) is also supported by an extensive team of clinical and non-clinical staff within the hospital as well as external stakeholders. The target audience includes young people and young adults who have complex health needs or who only access the service in times of acute illness.

Terms of reference

The purpose of the Youth Board and Young Adults Group is to represent the interests of young people and young adults from a wide variety of backgrounds and ensure that their views are incorporated into the development of services for children, young people and young adults across Southampton Children's and General Hospital. In so doing making sure the hospital provides the best experience it can for its patients.

Objectives

- ✚ Participate in Quality Improvement and recording patient experience including quality walkabouts, the fifteen steps initiative, involvement in ward CAS reviews and identifying issues from feedback
- ✚ Involvement in the recruitment and selection process for senior members of the Southampton Children's Hospital/University Hospital Southampton medical and nursing teams
- ✚ Consult for service and estate development as well as the wider Southampton Children's Hospital/University Hospital Southampton strategy
- ✚ Contribution to the ongoing refinement of the Children's Hospital/University Hospital Southampton patient and family engagement strategy
- ✚ Support the fundraising work of the Southampton Children's and General Hospital Charity
- ✚ Ensure that the consultation process includes children, young people and young adults from communities with protected characteristics.
- ✚ Be responsible for developing staff expertise and skill in consulting with children and families, young people and young adults.
- ✚ Link with other children's/adult services/departments in health, social care, education and the voluntary sector to share good practice and new ideas.

Membership

Following an initial engagement event, participants will be asked to complete a short application. Those 11-15 will automatically be enrolled in the Youth Board while those 18-25 will be enrolled in the Young Adult Group. Those 16 or 17 years old will be offered a choice of which group they wish to be part of.

Youth Board or Young Adult Group

To ensure sustainability and place the voice of young people and young adults at the heart of the development of Children's and Adult services. The youth board and young adults group will both include a maximum of fifteen members per group from a range of ages, allowing them to take ownership of the YYA. The members will act as representatives for the rest of their peers and, with a passion for democracy and making a difference, engage with clinical and non-clinical staff to transform Children's and Adult services.

Make a difference to the lives of Children, Young People and Young Adults in hospital

Participate in high-profile and national events

Build confidence

Roles and responsibilities:

The Youth board and the Young Adults Group will be coordinated and led by a chairperson and deputy chairperson with a minimum of three under 13s in the Youth Board and two under 18's to form part of the Young Adults Group.

The Hospital team will:

- ✚ Host meetings and chair initial meeting
- ✚ Implement an engagement steering group to respond to issues and actions identified from the YYA
- ✚ Set agendas in agreement with members in advance of meetings and circulate a minimum of 2 weeks before meetings
- ✚ Value the contribution of all members equally
- ✚ Provide secretarial support for YYA meetings & manage administration
- ✚ Provide safe online space for the YYA through a our Facebook Page and maintain an active social media presence

The YYA members will:

- ✚ Make an active and constructive contribution to meetings and online
- ✚ Develop working relationships with the Children's and Adults Hospital team
- ✚ Undertake any actions allocated to them within the timescale agreed and report back to their respective group members.
- ✚ Champion and promote the purpose of the YYA in the wider community

The support network for the YYA will include the UHS **under 21 governors**, enthusiastic individuals from the **volunteers** service, Youth **Services Team** and other **SCH and UHS staff**.

Membership agreement

All youth board and young adults group members are expected to:

- respect each other
- interact positively with all other members
- support each other
- listen to each other
- use appropriate language
- commit to attending meetings regularly
- look after all equipment

Clinical and non-clinical staff and volunteers will:

- make you feel welcome
- actively encourage you to get involved
- listen to you
- respect your opinion
- provide you with information, resources and equipment where necessary
- ensure all members are able to participate equally
- oversee that members treat each other fairly

When we meet

The Youth Board and Young Adults Group will meet quarterly at Southampton Children's Hospital/ Southampton General Hospital to listen to hospital speakers and consult and discuss on current projects. Members may also be asked to attend specific activities, such as interview panels and quality walkabouts on a voluntary basis.

Contact details

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Youth and Young Adults Group (YYA) via Email: YYA@uhs.nhs.uk Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UHSSYYA>

