

# What are the best ways to engage and work with young people in school settings?

The HDRC have worked with Bradford's Youth Ambassadors to create a checklist outlining how to effectively work with children and young people during local authority engagement and coproduction activities. An outline of the themes is presented below, using the acronym **ACTION**.

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## ACTIVITIES

- Keep things informal and tailor to the audience
- Start with fun icebreakers to gain trust

**C**

## CONTENT

- One main topic per session
- Have an introduction session
- Provide understandable information and questions to be discussed ahead of the session
- Ensure there's a platform to add more ideas after the session

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## TRUST

- Explain the purpose of the session and how the information will be used
- Create a comfortable and safe space
- Provide regular communication and updates after the session
- Involve at least one familiar face across the sessions
- Stick to your word

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## INCENTIVES

- Provide opportunities to develop their CVs and build their skills
- Offer appropriate payment and reimbursements
- Provide resources at the session such as stationery and refreshments

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## ORGANISATION

- Tailor group size to the topic and participants
- Utilise existing engagement and youth voice groups
- Day time is best for engagement, but consider people's lesson timetable and commitments

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## NOTHING ABOUT US WITHOUT US

- Listen to the voices of young people and involve them throughout the decision making process