

Greater Manchester Youth Combined Authority

Meeting and information pack
April 2024



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Welcome to the GMYCA

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About the GMYCA

The GMCA/YCA is made up of young people aged 11-18 years of age representing projects or organisations. For 2024-2026, there are 29 member organisations, each with two representatives.

The GMYCA was formed in 2018 and is an integral part of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and the Mayor's Office. The purpose of the GMYCA is to:

- Advise the Mayor and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) on key issues and concerns of young people, and provide solutions;
- Provide a critical voice and scrutinise the work of the Mayor and GMCA;
- Undertake specific pieces of work, e.g. develop the Opportunity Pass, Curriculum for Life, etc.

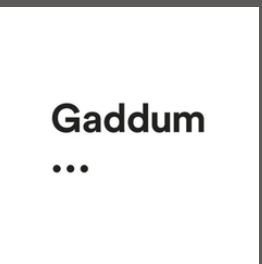
What to expect from the YCA:

- The GMYCA meets as a full group once a month every second Thursday of the month 6-8pm in the centre of Manchester.
- Refreshments will be provided – please ensure that any dietary needs and allergies are added to the consent forms as well as any additional and or accessibility needs.
- We have two development days each year and they are to team build, work on skills and have fun. The workers have up to three meetings a year.



Members 2024-2026

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DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY
FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

Facilitated by:

youth focus ^{NW}
Improving the lives of young people

Representatives

All representatives and their parents/guardians must complete the online consent form ([click here to access](#)) in order to take part in GMYCA meetings and other activities.

Workers and young people must also read and sign the code of conduct together, which will be available to sign at the first YCA meeting (and will be shared in advance). This must be signed for every representative (and deputies where applicable).

Workers

Each organisation will be invited to meet with YFNW before the start of the term for an induction chat, and to ask any questions you may have.

Each organisation can choose/elect up to two representatives to attend meetings (you may also wish to have two deputies as well, but you will only be able to have two representatives attend each meeting at any one time).

Any changes to representatives must be shared with YFNW at the earliest convenience, and any new representatives must have a consent form and code of conduct completed before attending any meetings.

Travel Expenses can be reimbursed; please ask YFNW for a claim form.



About Youth Focus NW

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Who we are

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, governed by a Board of Trustees. Founded in the early 90s as North West Regional Youth Service Unit to provide support to Local Authority Youth Services we have evolved over the years to become Youth Focus North West.

We pride ourselves on our strong youth work roots. We work in partnership with young people and organisations to have a voice where it counts. Our youth voice work gives young people the opportunities to make a difference individually, locally, regionally and nationally.

We nurture youth work practice and we create networks, broker partnerships and open up opportunities for young people and organisations to work together.

Our mission is to Improve the lives of young people in the North West

Youth Focus North West (YFNW) currently delivers the GMYCA on behalf of the GMCA.

Lead Worker for this project



Name: Hannah McMullan

Contact details:

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07731999114

What you can expect from us:



Before you come to a session (both online and in person), you'll be sent information about who the Youth Worker from YFNW is, where the session will be, and any other details you may need.



At the start of each session we will let you know where the fire exits and bathrooms are, and any other safety information you will need.



There will be a quiet space available away from the main session, in case you need some time out.



We will create safe spaces for you to form and share your views, we will treat you with respect and dignity.



We want everyone to be safe during sessions. We will respond to any concerns relating to your safety and wellbeing, and provide support and guidance when it's needed.



We will support you to share your personal experiences in a way that you are comfortable with. This is on your terms, and you can decide if and what you wish to share and with whom.



We will challenge any attitudes or behaviours that do not meet our expectations of staff, volunteers, visitors or young people.



We will maintain confidentiality, unless we need to share your information to protect you or someone else (if any action is needed, we will always communicate this with you where possible).

KEEPING YOU SAFE AT OUR SESSIONS

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What we expect from you:



Make sure you complete your consent form online before attending a session. Ask a YFNW worker if you're not sure whether you've done it.



Please understand the importance of personal privacy and respect other's rights to confidentiality where required. We will follow up on any concerns raised in line with our safeguarding policy and to keep you safe.



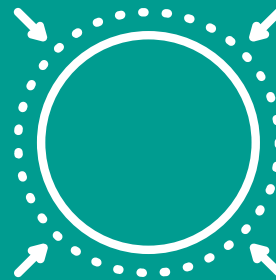
When you are representing an organisation in sessions or externally remember how your actions and behaviour portray the organisation to others.



We encourage you to play your part in making everyone feel welcome. Treat others with respect and kindness. Be supportive of others and their lived experience. We have a zero tolerance of bullying in any form.



Do your best to be on time and come prepared to participate in as much of the activities as possible and be ready to embrace new ideas.



Respect other people's boundaries and be considerate in your interactions with others.



We want everyone to be safe during sessions. You can report any concerns to your local worker or YFNW staff. You can read more about our safeguarding process by [clicking here](#).



We want everyone to have a safe and enjoyable experience; if you want to share feedback on how we can improve, speak to your local worker or YFNW staff or [complete this form](#).

Find out more about Youth Focus North West



Meetings 2024

Date	Time	Meeting type
Thursday 11th April	6pm-8pm	Main meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the YCA
Saturday 11th May	TBC	Development day
Wednesday 15th May	11am-12pm	Workers meeting
Thursday 13th June	6pm-8pm	Main meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nominations open for Leadership Team
Thursday 11th July	6pm-8pm	Main meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leadership elections
Thursday 12th September	6pm-8pm	Main meeting
Wednesday 25th September	4pm-5pm	Workers meeting
Thursday 10th October	6pm-8pm	Main meeting
Thursday 14th November	6pm-8pm	Main meeting
Saturday 14th December	TBC	Development day & end of year celebration

All Main Meetings are to be held in Cross Street Chapel, Cross St, M2 1NL
Development Day venues and details will be confirmed closer to the date





Connect with us:

@youthgreatermcr



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