Youth Development Project of the Diocese of London

T22 – Youth Participation Resources

Introduction

Participation means creating and promoting positive opportunities for children and young people of all ages and abilities to get actively involved in areas of work if and when they choose to.

Below is a list of organisations that provide participation toolkits for you use to engage in youth participation in your church.

British Youth Council [http://www.byc.org.uk/]

BYC provides a range of services to develop and support individual young people, youth-led member organisations and organisations wanting to involve young people in their work. The new BYC online Resource Centre provides: training materials, campaigning resources and how2guides from a range of youth organisations all in one place. [http://www.byc.org.uk/resources/]

Participation works [http://www.participationworks.org.uk/]

Participation Works is an online gateway for children and young people's participation. This is a hub for information, resources, news and networking on the involvement of young people in dialogue, decision making and influence across a wide range of settings. Through the Participation Works gateway you can explore issues and find
resources organised by topic, subscribe to the Participation Works via RSS or e-mail, read about the latest participation training and events, find case studies, toolkits and resources in their resource hub and link with other participation workers through the Participation Works Network for England.

**Participation works- Do the Right thing:**
http://www.participationworks.org.uk/resources/do-the-right-thing

This [signposting resource](http://www.participationworks.org.uk/resources/do-the-right-thing) provides a guide of where to find resources and good practice guidance for the development and delivery of participation work. For example, Do the Right thing includes the “How to do it- participation in practice” provides a suggested list of opportunities and approaches for involving children and young people in decision-making. This includes sections on project action and planning, applying for funding, being involved in commissioning, budgeting, the use of creative methods in participation, remuneration and reward to acknowledge the contribution made by young people and the setting up a youth council and many other key participation areas.

**Children’s Rights Alliance for England (CRAE)** http://www.crae.org.uk/

CRAE protects the human rights of children by lobbying government and others who hold power, by bringing or supporting test cases and by using regional and international human rights mechanisms.

**CRAE: Ready Steady Change toolkit** http://www.crae.org.uk/networks/rsc.html

Two participation training handbooks: one to increase the skills, knowledge and confidence of children and young people (aged 17 and under); the other to increase the skills, knowledge and confidence of all those working with children and young people. Look what's changing DVD Ready Steady Change newspapers (one for children and young people; the other for adults) – to get participants thinking about children's rights before they come on the Ready Steady Change course.
Action for Children
http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/media/43263/the-right-choice.pdf
Action for Children have produced a useful guide with lots of ideas on how to include young people in recruitment.