

Young Persons' Advisory Group (YPAG) Information Sheet



Project CREATE - Creating Research Ecologies to Advance Transdisciplinary Learning: A Study of Adolescent Loneliness

Science, art & young people each have unique knowledge about adolescent mental health. We can improve research by working together more. We do this in Project CREATE by coming together to understand loneliness and mental health in young people.

Project CREATE is a 2.5 year project, funded by the Medical Research Council and UK Research Institute. It is being delivered at the University of Leeds in collaboration with academics, scientists and arts researchers at University of Kent, Falmouth University, University of Oxford, Kings College London, University of Surrey, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and University College London.

What is this YPAG about?

The CREATE Young Persons' Advisory Group (YPAG) will be made up of two diverse groups of 8-12 participants. One group will be aged 10-17, the second will be aged 18-24.

Participants don't have to be an artist or scientist to want to be involved but all will have an interest in contributing to adolescent mental health research.

What is your role?

As a young researcher you will work closely with social scientists, artists and YPAG members to better understand how arts-based practice supports adolescent mental health and to improve the way research in this area is done.

You will also have the opportunity to explore adolescent mental health through the youth led creation and delivery of a social action advocacy campaign that will raise awareness about adolescent mental health with a focus on loneliness.

How much time will be required?

The YPAG will require different types of engagement held over a 9-12-month period. This will look like:

- Online 2-hour meetings, once a month.
- Attendance at two, 2-day in person workshops. Travel, accommodation and food will be paid for.
- Participation in the creation and presentation of a mental health advocacy campaign raising awareness for adolescent mental health.

How will we support our YPAG members

We really want to engage with as diverse a group as possible and as such don't want disability, learning needs or socio economic situations to be a barrier to participation. So if you or your young person has any additional needs please get in touch to see what support we can put in place to ensure full and safe participation.

What will be expected of group members?

- Attend and participate in as many of the online and face to face engagement activities as possible. This helps with the continued development of participants ideas.
- Be willing to take part and try new things.
- Let us know if a participant can't attend a meeting. We don't need to be told why, we just want to make sure the participant is ok, this could be either text or email to the group facilitator.
- Work as a team with other group members.
- Respect other people's views.
- Be punctual to meetings (or let us know if going to be late).
- Ask questions if unsure.
- Give us feedback, the good and the bad.
- Have fun!

How do we collect and use your personal data and the data that's produced?

Your data is important. For the nature of this research project for the University of Leeds the 'data' we collect will be gathered from your application, medical and consent forms and includes any questionnaires, audio, video and photo documentation created or completed during the project.

Your data will be stored electronically and securely on the University of Leeds internal drive. Only those working on the workshop i.e. group facilitators, artists and researchers will have access to personal data.

Any personal data that is created on paper will be scanned and stored electronically on the University of Leeds internal drive and any paper copies will be destroyed.

Recordings, transcripts, and personal information will be kept in a password-protected computer.

Explicit consent will be gathered from participants to use photos or recordings of participants; however, consent can be revoked at any time (where this is feasible), and a participant's image can be removed or blurred to maintain anonymity.

However, please remember if you have given us permission to share your name, image or recording etc online, we can only control the removal of this data up to the point of removing from any of our official online sites.

Any personal information held about the participant after the project has finished will be anonymised and stored for 25 years on University of Leeds internal drive. When things are written about the project, we will not use people's names or personal information (unless permission has been given, for example to be credited as a workshop member).

YOUNG PEOPLE / ART / SOCIAL SCIENCE

Filming and recording

As a research project we will be taking detailed notes, photos, audio and video recordings of the workshops and workshop outputs. These will be taken to inform the development of the study, inform the final report of the research project and be shared on the projects' website.

We will always let participants know when this is happening, and you will have the opportunity to opt out of having your image captured. You will also have final say on any films edits and shorts that are created from the project before these are shared in any form.

Expenses and payment

Participants will receive £20 per online meeting they attended and £50 for each day they attend a workshop. All travel costs, accommodation and food will be covered when attending face-to-face workshops. Any reasonable out of pocket expenses will also be covered, but these should be discussed with the project contact beforehand. If participants are under 18 then the project will cover the costs of a parent/guardian or carer to attend as guardian for the duration of the non workshop components (i.e. the residential element).

Are there any risks in taking part?

Participants will not be asked to take part in anything that makes them feel uncomfortable and if at any time they do feel uncomfortable, they can talk about this with the project lead and/or take a break.

Participants can also choose to stop being part of the project at any time without providing a reason. However, where possible please let us know if it's something we can do to ensure that the participant feels safe and supported at all times.

Are there any benefits in taking part?

By volunteering and becoming a YPAG member it is an opportunity for participants to make a real difference to mental health research for children and young people who are affected by poor mental health. Participants will also gather experience and develop skills that can be used to support academic and job applications. To support this, we will provide a certificate of participation and a reference upon request.

What happens if you no longer want to take part?

If for whatever reason a participant no longer wants to or cannot participate they are free to withdraw without explanation. However, we always appreciate feedback to ensure we do everything we can to help make the experience and involvement a rewarding and comfortable one.

For further information or to apply

Website: <https://create.leeds.ac.uk/>

Email: create@leeds.ac.uk

Phone: 07561 865 630.

Apply: <https://forms.office.com/e/6cxLKi5S9a>