



Atiya Gourlay

Lead – Equality, Participation and Strategic Partnerships

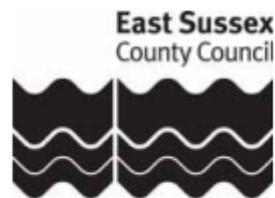
Children's Services

East Sussex County Council



EAST SUSSEX YOUTH CABINET

ANNUAL REPORT



VISION AND MISSION OF THE YOUTH CABINET

Our vision is for all young people in East Sussex to exercise their right to have their voices heard, valued and acted upon, as laid out in Article 12 of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child

Our mission is to embed equality, diversity and inclusion in all our work and represent the voice of local young people and work with decision-makers to bring about change and improve lives

Youth Cabinet Member
Beacon Academy



Oscar Whittle

"Youth Cabinet representatives work on campaigns, selected from schools across the country in the annual Make Your Mark ballot. On top of this, the Youth Cabinet works alongside the county council to ensure that local needs and representative groups engage with young people and consider our opinions.

This year, the Youth Cabinet has taken up two campaigns - to tackle domestic violence and protect the environment. It is the second year in a row that the the environment has been voted as a priority by the young people of East Sussex!



Youth Cabinet Member
Seaford Head School



Hayden Roberts

"The East Sussex Youth Cabinet is an incredible opportunity to make a real difference in East Sussex.

It's been a real eye-opener this year, seeing what can be achieved if we work in partnership with others. It enables us to further understand our campaign issues, reach more people and see how our research helps services to support young people.

East Sussex County Council let us have a say in the decisions made about us, so that youth-voice is heard and acted upon. We are hugely grateful to everyone who helps us along the way"



Youth Cabinet Member
Willingdon Community School



Amelie Anastasakis

"I encourage everyone to promote the Youth Cabinet elections and Make Your Mark ballots this year. This small action makes a big impact and ensures youth voice is heard locally and nationally.

All secondary schools and colleges, SEND schools, alternative education and those who are home-schooled are entitled to one representative. The election period opens from October this year, and those of us who will be staying on for a second term look forward to meeting new members and building a bigger and better youth voice for East Sussex!

Lead Member for
Education and ISEND



Councillor
Bob Standley

"This report is an excellent showcase for the Youth Cabinet, who worked so hard during the Covid lockdown period. I want to thank the schools who have supported their pupils to participate. I would encourage schools to use this report to highlight the value of youth voice to their pupils. I hope schools will be inspired to encourage their pupils to stand as Youth Cabinet representatives in their schools this year. The Youth Cabinet is a huge testament to the power and value of youth voice, and our schools are key to making this happen."

Lead Member for
Children and Families



Councillor
Bob Bowdler

As the newly elected member for Children and Families I am very excited to work alongside the Youth Cabinet. I am already impressed by their fantastic work responding to the pandemic, by raising awareness of issues young people face. Youth Voice plays a crucial role in shaping the work of East Sussex County Council and I want to personally thank the young people and staff who have participated in the success of Youth Cabinet campaign work."

Chief Executive
of East Sussex
County Council



Becky Shaw

"The Youth Cabinet plays a hugely important role in ensuring the voice of children and young people is heard across the whole of East Sussex County Council, with our partners in the NHS, Sussex Police, District and Borough Councils, and through the voluntary sector partner organisations we work with. I am always delighted to discuss their views, and to have their valuable insight into how East Sussex can be a good place for children and young people to grow up in."

Director of
Children's Services



Stuart Gallimore

"I am proud to lay claim to hosting the Youth Cabinet in Children's Services. They have continued to work diligently throughout the pandemic year, and to ensure youth voice is kept high on the agenda. They are a credit to young people in the county."

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH THE PANDEMIC

Background

From education through to mental health, the impact of the global pandemic on young people has been huge. In response to this, the Youth Cabinet voted to focus their efforts supporting young people to access information, advice and guidance through their STAY campaign.

stay well

stay informed

stay home

stay sunny

Former Youth Cabinet member Emma Garrod: Doreen Cronin, St Richards C.C;
Anne Robinson, Beacon Academy; and Peter Marchant, Cavendish School



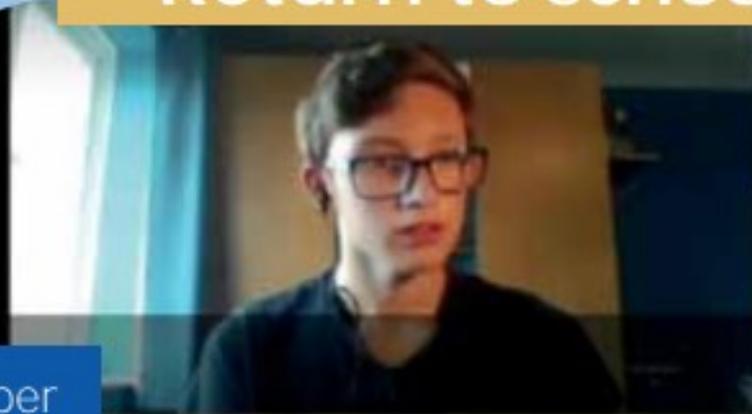
Youth Cabinet
addressing lockdown
issues with school
leaders in partnership
with Make (Good)
Trouble



**MAKE
(GOOD)
TROUBLE**

Youth Cabinet: Stuart Gallimore, Director of Children's Services; and Adam Chugg, 3VA

Return to school webinar



Youth Cabinet member



Darrell Gale, Director of Public Health



Jessica Stubbings, Children's Services



Doreen Cronin, St Richards Catholic College

TACKLING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Background

Voted as the top concern in November 2020, Youth Cabinet are working with the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership to develop a campaign to *Tackle Domestic Violence*.

Actions

Contributed to the national violence against women and girls consultation

Developed and co-hosted a 3-hour pan-Sussex schools seminar titled 'Protecting Young People from Harmful Sexual Behaviours'

Developing a young person's survey to understand young people's views and experiences of domestic violence

Outcomes

Members learned about how to inform the development of the governments next tackling violence against women and girls strategy

Over 85 delegates signed up; members worked in partnership with independent youth voice company, Priority 1-54, and noted best practice to share in their own schools and wider

Members learned how to develop surveys and the importance of involving all partners to achieve the best outcomes; survey results will support prevention work and contribute to local domestic violence strategy

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Background

The Youth Cabinet voted to continue their environment work to finish the fantastic work already completed and planned with the Communities, Economy and Transport Team at East Sussex County Council.

Actions

Created a comprehensive schools energy audit toolkit for all secondary settings in East Sussex

Consultation with Lewes District and Eastbourne Borough councils on local climate action work.

Advised on a communications outline for East Sussex County Council's climate action work for schools and young people

Created a social media personal pledge campaign

Outcomes

Members worked in partnership with climate charity Ashden, to develop the resource that will be launched in schools in Autumn 2021

District councils have youth voice informing their action plans

Members worked in partnership with Communities, Economy and Transport Team to develop a youth-proofed plan for effective communication across the county

Members upskilled themselves using creative platforms to develop engaging content; raised awareness of issues to young people by signposting to learning and ways they can make a positive impact on the planet

LOOKING AHEAD

Tackle Domestic Violence

- Ensure all schools, and other settings that involve young people, have access to the survey
- Analyse the survey results with Sussex Police and Children's Services
- Share survey results and recommendations with East Sussex County Council and its partners
- Develop creative media to highlight survey result findings with young people, parents and carers

Protect the Environment

- Respond to the Members of Parliament lobbying letters, by involving them in further discussion or events
- Launch and pilot the schools' energy audit toolkit in secondary schools
- Support East Sussex County Council's climate action plans and communications to young people, parents and carers
- Connect with and support local climate action organisations

1. What is HAF?
2. What happened at Easter?
3. What happens next?
4. What can you do to help?



What is Holiday Activity and Food?

- Provision of holiday activities and food
- Free for FSM children (ages 5-16)
- Equivalent of 4 hours a day, 4 days a week, 6 weeks a year
- DfE funding and ESCC coordinating
- Development of pilot schemes in other LAs
- Provision took place at Easter (1 week) and will take place in the summer (4 weeks) and Christmas holidays (1 week)
- The role of Children and Young People's Trust partners



What happened at Easter?



Department
for Education

Q: If you could do anything what would it be?

A: "Probably this!"

Child, Robertsbridge

It encourages you to get out and do stuff instead of sitting in your bedroom, all day everyday. That's what it's been like in Covid.

Child - Bexhill

I don't know how you could improve the day as my children have really enjoyed it. It has been a massive help having a funded place, so I haven't had to struggle funding another childcare place.

Parent, Battle

The holiday play scheme enabled me to carry on working knowing that my child was safe and having fun.

This was an amazing thing for my daughter to do, we will keep our eyes peeled if this happens again.

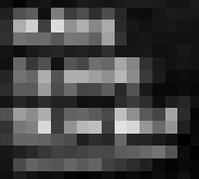
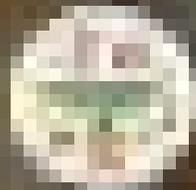
Parent, Rye

The inclusivity, my child has a physical deformity and we were just accepted and he joined in with all the other children - Thank You.

Parent, Bexhill



different types of instruments



What was it like for providers?



Department
for Education

Because we have been shut, it was just a great opportunity to get the doors open, get some people in, get our coaches working. But also we're really passionate about just getting people active again.

Provider - Bexhill

Q: Why did you take part in the programme?

A: It's just that it's been so needed. Especially after the year we've had where we've found so many of our children are only interacting with the people in their bubbles, so they're not mixing age ranges. They're not having that level of social interaction that they need. And I just think it's so important that they're having that time to play. And I think for parents to be able to be consistent with work now and be back at everything.

Provider - Robertsbridge



For more information, contact the HAF team - HAF@eastsussex.gov.uk



What happens next?

Building on the success of Easter, we have expanded HAF for the summer:

- 50+ providers confirmed so far
- Increased focus on SEND and secondary provision
- Greater diversity of activities
- More providers in areas beyond high-FSM locations
- Greater support for providers in identifying FSM children



What can you do to help?



Department
for Education

To develop the programme:

- Spread the word!
- Signpost eligible young people on free school meals
- Apply for funding for Christmas provision
- Encourage other providers and schools to apply



Q&A

