City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership

Children and Young People's Voice and Involvement Strategy 2025–2028

This plan explains how adults in York should listen to you and act based on what you tell us.

Our Vision

Every conversation starts with you. We promise to listen, respect your views, and make sure your voice shapes change.

What We Mean by Voice

Your voice is how you share your thoughts. Talking, drawing, writing, or other ways. Everyone's voice matters, even if you don't speak.

Why This Strategy Matters

- It's the right thing to do as you deserve to be listened to.
- We understand that you want real involvement, not just being asked.
- It's your right, protected by the United Nations (a group of countries working together to make the world safer, fairer, and better for everyone).
- Being heard helps keep you safe.

How We'll Make It Happen – The Lundy Model

We will use a plan called the Lundy Model, which has four important parts:

1. **Space:** Create safe and welcoming places where you feel comfortable to share your thoughts.
2. **Voice:** Help you express your views in the way that suits you best.
3. **Audience:** Make sure the right people listen carefully to what you say.
4. **Influence:** Make sure your views actually change things and that you see how your ideas have helped.

Who We Are

We're the Voice and Involvement Sub-Group, part of the City of York Safeguarding Children's Partnership, which is a team that works to keep children and young people safe.

What We'll Do

- Create tools to help adults listen to you better.
- Train adults to involve young people properly.
- Give you more chances to speak up.
- Celebrate when your voice makes a difference.

What We'll Focus On

- Keeping you safe
- Supporting children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Mental health and well-being
- Listening to what matters most to you
- Making sure everyone is included

Your Rights

You have the right to share your views and be listened to, especially when decisions are made about your life. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is a special agreement made by almost every country in the world. It says that all children, no matter where they're from, what they believe, or what they can do, have important rights that must be protected.

You can read more about that here: **unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights/**.

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Keeping You Safe

There are rules made by the government called Working Together to Safeguard Children. This makes sure adults work together to protect you and take your views seriously and we promise to stick to these important rules.

How You Can Get Involved

- Share your views about your own life
- Join groups that make change
- Take part in surveys and consultations

How We'll Know It's Working

- You feel listened to
- Adults feel confident involving you and listening to you
- Real changes happen from your ideas

Sharing Progress

We'll share updates each year in a report to show how your voice is making a difference.