

Need to know what **Youth Voice Canterbury** might think about your idea, decision or project? Use our guide to help you get started:

// WANT TO CONSULT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE?

WHO ARE YVC?

Youth Voice Canterbury is a network of youth participation groups from all around Canterbury. Our vision is to link young people with decision-makers and develop a two way conversation.



We're really real!

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

Consulting with Youth Voice Canterbury couldn't be easier. Take a look:

STEP 1: CRITERIA DO YOU MEET IT?

- Have you checked out our website?
- Are you prepared to use our **top tips below** to promote good youth participation?

STEP 2: CONTACT TWO WAYS HERE:

- **Get in touch** with us via email. Address is below!
- Contact a YVC Guide through our website.

STEP 3: DISCUSS TIME TO DECIDE:

- What **level** of youth participation do you need? (details overleaf)
- Work with us to develop the best option for all.

OUR TOP TIPS

As recommended by the Youth Guides of Youth Voice Canterbury:

- **SUPPLY FOOD.**
- **MAKE IT FUN!**
- **GIVE US THE WHOLE STORY.**
- **USE OUR WORDS, DON'T TWIST THEM.**
- **HEAR US, NOT WHAT YOU WANT TO HEAR.**
- **TREAT US AS EQUALS.**
- **FEEDBACK TO US SO WE KNOW OUR TIME HAS BEEN WELL SPENT.**

STEP 5: FEEDBACK

- How did you **use** YVC's participation?
- **Feed back** to YVC via Youth Connect meeting, F2F, or in writing e.g. report, formal letter, email.

STEP 4: ENGAGE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE!

VISIT US: <http://www.youthvoicecanterbury.org.nz>
CONTACT US: youthvoicecanterbury@gmail.com

Want to know about the process?
Read on to find out, and to see
some great examples of youth
engagement **done right!**

// WHICH LEVEL OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT?

THE BEST RESULT FOR ALL

Youth participation theory (Westhorp's Continuum) helps us to make sure that the right level of engagement is adopted for every project we undertake to be consulted on. Which do you think would work best for what your project, idea, plan or consultation?



Ad hoc

Create a good environment for young people to share their views.

Structured consultation

Develop a deliberate strategy to seek young peoples' views on what they need, implying a two-way flow of information and ideas

Influence

Give young people some formal level of input to ensure at least a minimal level of influence on the organisation.

Delegation

Provide young people with real responsibility for undertaking particular tasks in the organisation, mutually understanding the level of reach involved.

Negotiation

Contribute your ideas alongside those of young people. Information, perspectives and decisions are then reached by consensus and compromise.

Control

Offer young people the chance to make all or many of the crucial decisions within the organisation, from policy and programming to financial management and staffing.

SUCCESS STORIES

Here are some examples of work we've done with organisations:



- Todd Foundation had \$1 million in funding to give to a Christchurch Youth sector initiative, and Youth Voice Canterbury helped them decide the winning bid. Todd:
- Used Westhorp's youth participation continuum
- Developed a youth panel
- Reimbursed young people for time involved

YOUTH FUTURES CANTERBURY

Youth Futures Canterbury wanted to get a youth perspective on an employment framework document they were developing for employers and employees. This is how they worked with Youth Voice Canterbury:

- Met YVC and discussed best options
- Came to Youth Connect event and ran workshop
- Provided comprehensive feedback