



Participation Flower Stages with Examples

Below are the examples that match each stage of participation. Use this page to play a game, cut out the examples and stages and see if you, your team or group can match them correctly.

Young people decide they want a presentation stand at a local festival, displaying work for young people, adults offer their advice.

Young people decide they'd like to start volunteering at a youth club, adults support the young people to become volunteers.

Young people started charity work, decided what to do, and did it themselves. Adults supported the group, but didn't take charge.

Trainers had the idea for a fun residential. Young People gave ideas of where they wanted to go. The final decision was made by young people within agreed boundaries. Some of group helped to plan and organise and all of group chose activities and food.

Decision for a project move has made by adults, but young people are told why the venue has been chosen, and are taken to see it. They are asked what they think, and are given the option of decoration etc.

Recruitment for head teacher at school. Young people are involved, but all they could say, was good, ok, or bad, and their views weren't listened to anyway. OR suggestion boxes at college, no action taken on requests made.

Some T-shirts were printed and young people was made to wear one with a logo on. They was therefore promoting the project all day, but didn't know what it meant.

School teachers give you a piece of work to do, but you don't know what you're doing. You ask questions, but the teacher just tells you that you have to do it! You then give an idea to make it work easier, but he doesn't listen, and uses your idea as his own, without consulting you.

WELCOME TO OUR PARTICIPATION FLOWER



As Young Commissioners we have experienced different levels of meaningful participation with different services, ranging from bad to amazing. Based on this we have created the participation flower to help show you how we (and other participating young people) feel among these different levels of participation and give you tips on how to improve.

Soil

Good foundations and rich soil are always needed for a perfect flower to bloom. Here the soil is the views of your organisation/service regarding young people and their participation. Being open-minded, respecting and empowering young people, their views and values helps to create the perfect soil for the young people's involvement to flourish.

Up the leaves

The leaves represent how we, as young commissioners feel among different levels of participation. Bad participation, where young people have little to no involvement in planning, preparation and decision making, purely used to tick that young people have been involved, makes us feel like we are mould-able to how you want- We are not your playdough! Whereas great meaningful participation where we are able to take the lead, makes us feel like this partnership is the greatest show and fully blooms our flower!

Watering the flower

Here the water from the watering can represents just a few ideas to help make your participation flower grow to be a great meaningful collaboration between young people and your organisation.

Bees

Just like the bees help to pollinate and create a beautiful thriving garden, the involvement and participation of young people in planning, decision making, designing etc. can help make your organisation and project flourish and bloom.