



#iwill Youth Voice Young Evaluators Panel

Application pack

Deadline: 13 September 2021

Proudly supporting
youth social action



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport



Work with us to understand the impact of youth voice across the #iwill Fund



What is the Young Evaluators Panel?

The #iwill Young Evaluators Panel will enable young people to play a key role in evaluating the impact of youth voice within the #iwill Fund.

The Panel will work with the Centre for Youth Impact to conduct research to explore the impact of youth voice within the #iwill Fund. Young Evaluators will:

- **Work alongside professional evaluators** from the Centre to analyse evidence submitted from #iwill youth social action projects
- **Lead research activity** to strengthen the evidence base around the impact of youth voice
- **Co-design a national ‘Outcomes Summit’ event** to assess and share the evaluation findings
- **Gain opportunities for personal development** through skills training, dedicated support and valuable experience

The Centre for Youth Impact will support up to eight young people as part of the Young Evaluators Panel to help deliver an evaluation of the #iwill Fund. Working with professional evaluators, you will have the opportunity to shape the evaluation questions, collect and analyse data, and influence how we share the evaluation findings.

Who are we looking for?

- A diverse range of young people from across England
- Aged 14-18
- Have been actively involved in youth social action activities*



We're particularly interested in hearing from young people who like to share their ideas, want to learn how to do research and analyse data, enjoy working as part of a team, and want to influence how youth social action is delivered in the future.

*Youth social action refers to activities that young people undertake to make a positive difference to others, their community or the environment.

About the evaluation

The #iwill Fund is an England-wide joint investment that brings together £50 million in funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and The National Lottery Community Fund (TNLCF) to support young people to access high quality social action opportunities. The Fund launched in November 2016 to support the [#iwill campaign's](#) goals in England, aiming to make [social action](#) part of life for as many 10 to 20 year-olds as possible. It runs until December 2022 and has so far reached over 500,000 young people.

[The Centre for Youth Impact](#) is leading an evaluation to explore the impact of youth voice in the #iwill Fund, alongside The National Lottery Community Fund for Young People in the Lead Panel, and the DCMS Steering Group.

By 'youth voice', we mean *the meaningful involvement of young people in decisions that affect them and that influence the conditions of projects and programmes that they are involved in*. This evaluation will explore:

- What is the impact of youth voice on social policy?
- What is the impact of youth voice on organisations?
- What changes for young people as a result of participating in youth voice activities?

About the Centre for Youth Impact

The Centre is an independent charity set up to support the youth sector to progress thinking and practice in evidence and impact measurement. Learning and collaboration is key to our approach, creating a more inclusive and powerful conversation about evaluation and impact.

Our vision is for all young people to have access to high quality programmes and services that improve their life chances, by enabling embedded approaches to impact measurement that directly inform practice. We believe involving diverse young people at the heart of our work will support us to achieve this.

We have a team of expert evaluators and social researchers who run lots of evaluations. They are specialists in finding out what is working well, what has been challenging and what can be learnt from the way things have been run.





The role and purpose of the Young Evaluators Panel (YEP)

We know that to understand impact on young people, we need to involve young people. You can help us to ask the right questions, provide new perspectives and explain the evaluation findings to others.

We are looking for eight young people aged 14-18 when they join, who have direct experience of youth social action activities. As a Young Evaluator, your role will be to:

- Give your views on how the evaluation should be run;
- Work with our team to understand the evidence submitted around youth voice and co-create a prototype outcomes framework;
- Ask other young people about their experiences of youth voice and youth social action;
- Analyse this information to support the evidence we already have; and
- Give ideas and views on how we can tell people about what we've learnt.



The commitment we need from YEP members

We will need you to commit to being a member from **September 2021 – Spring 2023**

September 2021	Induction call with a member of our team to say hi and get to know one another, and an induction call with all YEP members.
29th – 31st October 2021	Residential #1* A two-night residential where we will focus on getting to know each other, understanding your role and co-creating expectations of ways of working. We're also going kayaking!
Ongoing...	Monthly online meetings about the evaluation.
February 2022	Residential #2* A two- night residential where we will work together to analyse data submitted as part of the evaluation.
April 2022	Residential #3* A four night residential where you will receive support and training from us to develop some research questions based on existing evidence and plan for data collection. We'll also develop our plans for the 'Outcomes Summit'.
June-July 2022	Working in small groups and with support from us, you'll go out and collect some data based on plans developed in Residential #3.
July 2022	Residential #4* A two night residential where we will analyse the data collected over the summer.
Autumn/Winter 2022	'Outcomes Summit' participatory workshop to assess findings and learning from the evaluation.
Winter 2022/23	Validation workshop to shape the structure and focus of the final report.
Winter-Spring 2023	Input into and consultation on final outputs, including national guidance on embedding youth voice practice for the youth sector.

***Our residentials will be run in accordance with COVID-19 health and safety guidelines. They are paid for by us, including all your meals and an outdoor activity, and will take place in different locations across England!**

What will I get from taking part?

- **Discussing issues with professionals:** You will work closely with researchers at the Centre for Youth Impact to help them to understand what changes for young people when they are heard in decisions about youth social action projects.
- **Develop your knowledge skills and experience:** You'll gain valuable skills and experience, including leadership and teamwork, communication, and social research. This is the stuff you can use on your CV and in job applications.
- **Meet new people:** You'll work alongside the other Young Evaluators, the team at the Centre, and closely with a range of professionals involved in the #iwill Fund. You'll also meet other young people involved in youth social action through your data collection.
- **Make a real difference:** You'll play a key role in learning about and communicating the impact of youth voice, and developing national guidance on how to deliver youth voice practices effectively.



We are looking for Young Evaluators who:

- **Can bring their youth social action experiences** and insights to the role
- **Are independent** and can approach evidence as you find it, not simply based on what you think
- **Are able to work as part of a team** to achieve a shared goal
- **Can speak out** and express their views and debate them with others
- **Are self-motivated** to keep in-touch with the wider group and our team
- **Believe in equity and diversity** and treat everyone equally and fairly
- **Are able to dedicate the necessary time** to the role
- **Are a mix of people** of different backgrounds and experiences

Why apply?

From us, you'll get:

- Training in evaluation and research skills
- Support to develop key skills related to leadership, communication and critical thinking
- The opportunity to build a close network of other committed young people
- A safe and supportive environment to share your views
- Meaningful opportunities to shape national guidance on youth voice practice
- A reference letter detailing skills learnt

Taking part is free, and all your expenses will be paid.

How to apply

All applicants should complete this [application form](#). This form is in two parts.

Part 1 asks you to provide some key information about who you are. These questions will not be assessed but help us to build a diverse and balanced team.

Part 2 asks you to upload an application. You can choose to apply in one of two ways:

- 1. In writing:** A short written statement, 500 words maximum! (Word or PDF file)
- 2. Video/audio:** Create a short video/sound recording (no more than three minutes long)

In your written statement or video/audio we want you to tell us:

- Who you are (your name, where you live, what you are doing in life – are you at school or college or working, or something else?)
- Your experiences of participating in youth social action (with #iwill or beyond)
- Why you want to join the Young Evaluators Panel
- What you think we should try to learn about youth voice through this evaluation

The deadline for applications is **9am, Monday 13 September 2021**. Please complete and submit the [application form](#), including uploading your written statement or video/audio file by this date.

I'M READY TO APPLY

If you're ready to apply, great!
Get cracking with your
[application form](#)



NEED HELP?

If you have any questions about applying or would like support in making your application, please email youthvoice@youthimpact.uk and we'll give you a hand!

What happens next?

- When you apply, we will confirm we have received your application.
- Applicants will be shortlisted by our team. We will be selecting people to ensure that there is a range of different experiences and a balanced group in terms of age, gender and background. We are not solely selecting people on their skills or experience but also their enthusiasm to be involved.
- We'll get in touch to let you know if you've been shortlisted by 16 September.

Good luck with your application!