Britain Yearly Meeting Children and Young People's Work

Event & Activity Management Policy Procedures & Guidance 12



Event Aims & Intended Outcomes

Each event should have a set of aims, including if appropriate, an overall aim. There should also be intended outcomes for participants, peer facilitators and adult volunteers. Those responsible for planning and running the event should be aware of these aims and intended outcomes and the event may be evaluated against them. An example of events aims and Intended outcomes is below.

Example Britain Yearly Meeting Children & Young People's Programme Aims

Overall Aim

To enable children and young people to take a full part in Yearly Meeting as a worshipping community and a decision making body, providing opportunities for spiritual growth and faith development and enabling them to explore their religious lives.

Specific Aims

Spiritual Development

• To provide opportunities for children and young people to explore their spirituality in a Quaker context and to support individuals in their religious lives and spiritual journeys.

Understanding Quakerism

• To provide an experience of Quakerism and enable an increased understanding of the Religious Society of Friends and of Quaker faith, practice and witness.

Exploring Issues

• To encourage children and young people to explore issues of relevance to them in a variety of ways, enabling them to explore issues of concern to the Yearly Meeting as a whole and empowering them to articulate their concerns.

Personal Growth

• To provide opportunities for personal growth, strengthening participants' identities as individuals and as young Quakers, in a safe and supportive environment which promotes their physical and emotional well being.

Participation & Integration

- To enable, equip and empower children and young people to participate in Yearly Meeting processes and structures
- To enable the integration of children and young people in the Yearly Meeting and to encourage all Friends to recognise and value the contribution of children and young people to the life and work of the Religious Society of Friends.
- To enable Friends of all ages to come together as a worshipping community and a decision making body with an awareness of the challenges this poses and the responsibilities it carries for all involved.

Intended outcomes for participants

- Exploration of the themes of Yearly Meeting and involvement and participation in Yearly Meeting decision making.
- The chance to explore, consider and express their spirituality and the opportunity for spiritual growth

- Increased awareness of Quaker beliefs and values such as: that of God in everyone, the priesthood of all believers, the Quaker testimonies
- The opportunity to explore their Quaker identity and their own beliefs, values and lives and to consider their personal witness to the Quaker testimonies
- Understanding and/or experience of Quaker practice which could include: Worship, Quaker Business Method, Minute Writing, Nominations, Membership, Quaker Faith and Practice and Advices & Queries, the historical basis of Quaker practice.
- To have fun, make friends and build friendships
- Participating with adult Friends in business sessions, cross-age worship, activities, discussion/sharing and formal and informal communication.
- Knowledge of current and historic Quaker Witness and the beliefs and values underlying this.
- Experience of being part of a Quaker community and a realisation of being part of a diverse Quaker community in Britain and the world.
- Encouraged to become involved in Quaker activities locally and regionally.

Under 20 Team members

The programme offers young Friends the opportunity to experience the planning, organising and enabling of a major event, working alongside staff and adult volunteers as equal members of the team. During the event they facilitate a small group of their peers. They are offered training, support and resources to carry out this role and work alongside an Over 20 in a supportive partnership role.

Intended outcomes for Under 20 Team members:

Event

- recognition of what is involved in running a major event
- experience of facilitating a variety of activities/sessions
- recognition of the need to plan a balanced programme that takes account of a range of interests and abilities of group members.
- experience of working as part of a mixed-age team and recognising the different roles and responsibilities that are part of this team

Self awareness

- understanding of personal skills in relation to facilitating others
- knowledge of individual strengths and weaknesses

Personal development

- ability to plan and follow tasks through to completion
- being able to reflect and change plans accordingly
- a willingness to take risks
- a feeling of being stretched

Group work skills

- experience of facilitating a small group of their peers
- being able to consider approaches to working in groups, recognising conflict and harmony and knowing their own preferences for handling these.
- being able to take on responsibility and understand authority
- recognise the value of a supportive relationship with over 20 team member, being able to give and receive feedback

Personal and organisational

- an increased sense of well being and satisfaction
- ongoing relationships developed with peers
- desire to participate in Quaker activities locally
- confident to transfer learning to involvement in new activities with Quakers and others

Over 20 team members 12-18 year olds

The BYM Children and Young People's Programme offers adult volunteers the opportunity to be part of the Over 20 team and, in doing so, to give service to the Yearly Meeting.

Adult volunteers on the Over 20 team working with 12-18 year olds for BYM will be in a supportive partnership role with an under 20 team member, this relationship seeks to enhance the development of the under 20 and over 20. In addition adult volunteers are supported in their role by staff members.

These are the things that you should hope to get out of being on the Over 20 team:

- experience of working as part of a mixed-age team and being able to take on responsibility and understand authority as part of this team
- experience of facilitating elements of the programme
- the opportunity to use existing skills in a Quaker context and to develop new skills
- knowledge of your individual strengths and weaknesses
- a feeling of being stretched and a willingness to take risks
- recognition of the value of a supportive relationship with an under 20 team member, being able to give and receive feedback
- an increased sense of well being and satisfaction
- the confidence to transfer learning to involvement in new activities with Quakers and others
- the opportunity to take on a variety of roles in relation to the event and the programme
- the opportunity to develop relationships with young people through participation in activities, discussions and worship
- knowledge of your preferences for handling group dynamics, recognising conflict and harmony

Over 20 team members 0-12 year olds

The BYM Children and Young People's Programme offers adult volunteers the opportunity to be part of the Over 20 team and, in doing so, to give service to the Yearly Meeting.

Adult volunteers are supported in their role by staff members.

These are the things that you should hope to get out of being on the Over 20 team:

- experience of working as part of a mixed-age team and being able to take on responsibility and understand authority as part of this team
- experience of facilitating elements of the programme
- the opportunity to use existing skills in a Quaker context and to develop new skills
- knowledge of your individual strengths and weaknesses
- a feeling of being stretched and a willingness to take risks
- recognition of the value of a supportive relationship with other team members, being able to give and receive feedback
- an increased sense of well being and satisfaction
- the confidence to transfer learning to involvement in new activities with Quakers and others
- the opportunity to take on a variety of roles in relation to the event and the programme
- the opportunity to develop relationships with children through participation in activities, discussions and worship
- knowledge of your preferences for handling group dynamics, recognising conflict and harmony