

Resources and support for children and young people's work



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www.quaker.org.uk/cyp

A large print version of this booklet is available:
please contact the publications manager on 020
7663 1162 or email publications@quaker.org.uk

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Introduction

The children and young people's work staff team are part of the Quaker Life department at Friends House. Our vision is that children and young people are a valued part of vibrant Quaker communities where spiritual development is paramount. We aim to enhance the engagement with children and young people of Quaker meetings in Britain by providing resources, training, support and events.

This catalogue sets out the free resources that are available, the training that can be accessed by individuals or meetings, the support that exists for those doing work with children and young people, and the range of events that take place for children and young people. We hope that this is helpful to you.

If you have news relating to the children's work in your meeting and would like to share this with others please let us know. We will then include it within the newsletter that goes out each month with the *Journeys in the Spirit* children's work edition, which has over 700 subscribers. If you have an activity or a story that you think others would enjoy, please pass this on to us and we'll include it as a topical activity within the children's edition of *Journeys in the Spirit*. Or if you have news for Quaker young people or those working with them, please pass this onto us and we'll include it in the newsletter that accompanies the *Journeys in the Spirit* youth work edition, which goes out three times a year to over 450 subscribers.

Howard

Howard Nurden, Head of children and young people's staff team, Quaker Life

To obtain the resources outlined in this catalogue please

- email cypadmin@quaker.org.uk
- go to www.quaker.org.uk/cyp
- or phone 020 7663 1013.

Resources for work with children aged 0 to 11

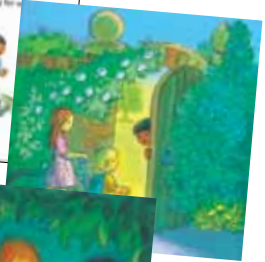
Being Ready

This is a guide about being ready for children in Quaker meetings where, as yet, there is not a children's meeting for worship, or where children are not regular or even occasional visitors with their families. The message of this guide is simple – it is important to be ready for children. It explores four questions: Why be ready? What does a meeting need to do to be ready? What a does meeting need to have to be ready? What might you do to engage with families and children?



Quaker meeting and me

This is a delightful and profound booklet especially for helping young children to find a way into Quaker meeting for worship. It conveys with beauty and simplicity the heart and meaning of meeting for worship using images from a garden to illustrate its different aspects. This book can be used as a starting point for conversations between children and adults, and also as a focus to help children settle and centre during meeting for worship.



Journeys in the Spirit for 0- to 4-year-olds

This is a simple guide to being with children aged 0 to 4 years in a Quaker setting. This might be in children's meeting for worship, a Quaker all age residential event or a one day Quaker gathering. It offers ideas, resources and frameworks to encourage and equip volunteers being with this age group in Quaker meetings. Being in a Quaker meeting with children of this age is very special and can be a delight.



What about the children in our meeting?

This short resource and accompanying worksheets aims to help a meeting reflect on the intentions of what is offered to children and to set realistic plans for this work with children. Short, simply-written and practical to use, it suggests that the meeting comes together to explore the purposes of the work with children and agree the approaches to take in the future.



Building our children's meeting, how to do it?



This is an exploration of the elements of children's meeting for worship, together with lots of suggestions of things to do and approaches to take.

Journeys in the Spirit: children's work edition

The children's work edition of *Journeys in the Spirit* comes out monthly. It offers resources and ideas for those engaging with children aged 5 to 12 years in a Quaker setting. It is offered with the intention of providing an opportunity for exploring, creating and learning in an atmosphere of worship in partnership on our shared journey in the spirit.

Each issue offers a variety of activities and suggested approaches on a theme, which seek to encourage the children to gather, engage, respond and reflect. Additionally there is an easy-to-use children's meeting outline, an all age worship suggestion and a topical activity. To see past issues go to www.quaker.org.uk/journeys/archive-children

To receive this all you have to do is subscribe; there is no cost and you can select to be sent it by email or post. For subscriptions information go to www.quaker.org.uk/subscribing-journeys-spirit-children



Resources for work with young people aged 12 to 18 years

Quakers: a guide for young people

This leaflet introduces the Quaker way in a style suitable for teenagers. It is good for school visits or when hosting schools in the meeting house. It is also a helpful guide to give to Quaker young people, and one that they will be comfortable sharing with friends.



Quaker Youth Work Handbook

This covers everything you need to know when thinking about working with Quaker young people. It includes sections on the purpose of Quaker youth work, getting started, participation, health and safety, worship and spirituality, as well as a list of useful resources.



Journeys in the Spirit: youth work edition

The youth work edition of *Journeys in the Spirit* provides a range of ideas to use with 12- to 18- year-olds in a Quaker context and comes out three times a year. It is written to fit with the structure of a variety of youth events and activities such as link group weekends, week-long residential events and Sunday morning youth activities. Each issue is packed with ideas for exploring a theme in a range of ways and is produced in magazine format with all the activities in one handy A4 booklet.



The material is grouped according to different 'points', each with a different approach or way of exploring the theme; you can pick and choose to suit the group you are working with. To view previous issues go to www.quaker.org.uk/archive-youth. To receive this all you have to do is subscribe. There is no cost and you can select to be sent it by email or post. For subscriptions information go to www.quaker.org.uk/subscribing-journeys-spirit-youth.

Spiritual development

This booklet explores our understanding of spiritual development and how this affects our work with young people. It offers a model of spiritual development and practical ideas of ways to work with young people that will help facilitate their spiritual journeys.



Sharing our journeys

This pack contains a variety of activities which enable young Quakers and adult Friends to explore their spirituality in a Quaker context, to share their spiritual journeys and think about and articulate their beliefs and their values. It gives opportunities to discover by sharing together what Quakerism means to them and to other people.



Living as a Quaker

This is a six session programme providing facilitators with all they need to support young people in exploring their Quaker identity, beliefs, values and interactions with others. The first two sessions consider Quakerism, exploring young people's understanding of their values and beliefs and of the testimonies. The next two sessions are an opportunity for participants to consider how they behave in groups, exploring ways to develop their interpersonal skills. The final two sessions identify ways of communicating Quakerism and finding structures within the networks they are a part of.

Relationships, sex and sexuality

This material is written to encourage meetings, link groups and young people's events to engage in this topic, helping young Quakers to develop meaningful and safe relationships. It is hoped that this resource will provide a means for young people to think about their spirituality and help them connect to Quakers though a topic that is important to them.

Ways to Connect

The Ways to Connect cards are to promote and develop the way we think about the place of young friends in Quaker meetings. There are eight subject areas, including engaging in intergenerational conversations, integrating young Friends into meeting, including young Friends on committees, planning intergenerational events and staying in touch with young Friends.



Resources for use with all ages

Spring into all age worship resource pack

This guidance and resource pack has simple guidance as to how to go about organising all age worship. It includes four tried and tested plans for all age worship.



Connecting as a Community

Connecting as a Community is a special edition of *Journeys in the Spirit* that can be used to facilitate activities that link your meeting's provision for young people aged between 12 and 18 with the wider meeting. This material is written as a set of activities to develop community in meetings.

Other resources

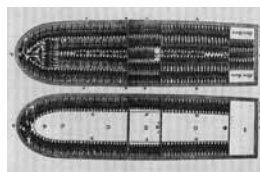
Schools journeys

Schools journeys is a publication that contains guidance on planning approaches for making links with local schools. It is essentially practical, containing ideas and suggestions for sessions on: being a Quaker; an introduction to Quaker worship; experiencing Quaker worship; exploring Quaker testimonies; the Quaker meeting house as a place of worship and Quaker beliefs.



Abolition journeys

This special edition of *Journeys in the Spirit*, produced in 2007, commemorates the part in ending slavery played by Quakers.



Ideas store

The Ideas store is a web-based collection of ideas submitted from meetings and individuals to offer suggestions to those working with children or young people in a Quaker context. Ideas can be searched for by type, topic or age group. This collection of ideas also includes all the issues of both the children's work and the youth work editions of *Journeys in the Spirit* where they are listed under the topic of each issue.

This can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/ideas-store

Godly Play resources

Godly Play is a creative and imaginative approach to Christian nurture. It is based on long established, tried and tested approaches and uses symbols and objects as well as words. It values process, openness and discovery whilst encouraging people to make meaning for themselves. It invites listeners into stories and encourages them to connect the stories with



personal experience. Godly Play is a non-coercive way to encourage children to move into larger dimensions of belief and faith, through wondering questions and open-ended response time. Although it was originally developed as a resource for children, Godly Play is now being used with a wide range of age groups in a diversity of settings. Godly Play is one of several variations of the Montessori tradition of religious education and has been developed in the United States by Dr Jerome Berryman. For further information go to www.godlyplay.org.uk.

From 2007 the children and young people's team in Quaker Life have offered workshops for Friends interested in storytelling, based on the Godly Play approach. There are now many Friends who have introduced storytelling to their meeting, either working with the children and young people or using stories as a contribution to all age worship. As well as the 'official' Godly Play stories based on the Bible, there are now also a number of Quaker stories that have been created by Friends.

There are a number of sets of storytelling equipment which are available on loan. All these are beautifully made by St Michael's workshop in Norwich and come as complete sets ready to use, together with a loan copy of the appropriate Godly Play story book or Quaker story script. Details of these sets can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/using-godly-play.

These resources may be borrowed by people in meetings who have attended a 'Storytelling as theological reflection' workshop delivered by the children and young people's training team, or Godly Play training delivered in another church or faith setting.

Training

Children and young people are a vital part of the life of our meetings. However, undertaking and supporting work with them can appear complex, and doing it is often hard. It is important that such work is done well. We offer a variety of opportunities to help Quakers in their engagement with and oversight of children and young people. Many of these opportunities are facilitated by the children and young people's work trainers – volunteers who are part of the Quaker Life Network.



Workshops

Workshops do not seek to tell you what to do but to enable you to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes so that your engagement with children and young people becomes more effective. Workshops seek to support Quaker engagement with children and young people in local and area meetings.

There are a variety of workshops available for meetings to request including explorations of all age worship, storytelling as theological reflection and the basics of Quaker engagement with children and young people. If the topics offered do not suit your situation, you can request to have a bespoke workshop to meet your particular needs.

The hosting meeting needs to provide a suitable venue, supply refreshments, guarantee at least six participants and have a contact person for liaison before an event. All workshops are timed to last a day (10.30am–4.00pm or equivalent) so would normally take place on a Saturday or Sunday. The children and young people's work staff will promote the workshop to other meetings in the vicinity, process bookings, write to all who book, and provide the workshop facilitators and materials for the workshop.



Details of the workshops currently running and available to request can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/workshops

Conferences

The children and young people's team host conferences to bring together friends to share expertise and to take their learning back to their meeting. These are promoted at www.quaker.org.uk/cyp-conferences

This includes the annual Quaker Youth Work Conference, an informal networking event for anyone involved in organising Quaker youth events. This offers the chance to consider, discuss and learn from one another about common issues and challenges that arise in Quaker youth work.

The conference also offers the opportunity for those involved in Quaker engagement with young people to together think about some hot topics relating to Quaker work with young people.



Facilitation and leadership

This weekend is an opportunity for young Quakers to explore and learn about groups and being a facilitator. It is aimed at young people aged between 15 and 21 and is for those interested in facilitating activities with their peers or hoping to become an adult volunteer at events with young people.



For details of the next weekend go to www.quaker.org.uk/peer-pathways-0

Children and Young People's Work Advocates

These are Friends appointed by area meetings to be advocates for the work with children and young people that goes on in local meetings. Advocates are responsible to an area meeting and often develop links with other neighbouring meetings.

The advocate role is intended to be a seed of collaboration and networking for children and young people's work in area and local meetings. Friends in this role are asked to undertake three tasks:

- Be an advocate of the need for children and young people's work within local meetings, encouraging awareness and support of the needs of children and young people in local meetings and linking people up.
- Be an advocate of the need for children and young people's work within the area meeting, encouraging awareness and support of the needs of children and young people in the area meeting and linking people up.
- Develop networks between neighbouring area meetings and across larger regions.

Further information about this role can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/children-and-young-people-s-work-advocates

Youth work recognition scheme

The Quaker youth work recognition scheme provides a framework to support young people working at events; it includes resources for reflection and for identifying the skills young people have developed through their participation in the event. At the end of each event, young people who have been involved in a leadership role receive a tailor-made certificate that identifies the skills they have developed. If you would like to use this framework with young people you work with, contact the children and young people's team in Quaker Life and ask to speak with the youth participation officer.

Quaker Life young people's network

Supporting the participation of young people, the Quaker Life young people's network promotes opportunities for the involvement of young people within Britain Yearly Meeting and beyond. From campaigns to consultations, from volunteering to training, there are a range of opportunities. To sign up to hear about these opportunities young people, aged 15 to 18 years, should 'friend' 'QuakerYouth Participation' on Facebook. Those not on Facebook should contact the children and young people's team to request to hear about these opportunities by email.

Events

All Britain Yearly Meeting (BYM) events with children and young people aim to facilitate spiritual development and understanding of Quakerism for children, young people and the adults working with them.



Britain Yearly Meeting events

Each year there are opportunities for 0- to 12-year-olds, including a programme for this age group at Yearly Meeting. These seek to enable children to gather together, make some new friends, see old friends and build our Quaker community.

There are events specifically for those aged 12 to 15 providing activities that enable friendships to be built, creativity to be developed, fun to be had and Yearly Meeting issues to be explored.

Events for 15- to 18-year-olds offer the opportunity for young people to come together, have fun, grow spiritually, explore relevant issues and participate in Yearly Meeting.

Sometimes events are offered for all ages, providing opportunities for children and adults to come together as a worshipping community, often focusing around a specific theme.

For current information about these opportunities go to www.quaker.org.uk/cyp-events



Regional events

There are a number of regional and area events organised throughout Britain for young people and children. For up-to-date details of these go to www.quaker.org.uk/regionalarea

Young Quakers' calendar

Each year a calendar is produced for young Quakers (aged 12 and over). This includes information about national BYM events, Leavers events, Woodbrooke events, regional events and local link groups, as well a space to write in your own dates! These are free and available to anyone on request. See contact details on page 14.

Policies and procedures

There are policies and procedures that set out what needs to be done in working with children and young people in a Quaker setting. This can be quite daunting for those setting up events. The policies and procedures used in Britain Yearly Meeting events with children and young people are available and can be adapted for use in other settings. These can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/cyp-policies-procedures and include policies, procedures and guidance relating to event and activity management, working with volunteers, safeguarding and disclosure.

If you are using these for another event, such as a link group or regional Quaker event, you should ensure that you meet the requirements of insurers, venues and your own organisation.

Contacts

Staff

To contact any of the children and young people's work staff team in Quaker Life, phone 020 7663 1013, email cypadmin@quaker.org.uk or write to Children and Young People's Team, Quaker Life, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ.

Website

Information about all the things included in this catalogue can be found at www.quaker.org.uk/cyp

YQ space

A website specifically aimed at young Quakers (aged 12 to 18 years) can be found at www.yqspace.org.uk

Quaker youth network

This provides an opportunity for adult volunteers who are working with young people in a Quaker context to communicate with each other. Go to www.facebook.com and search for 'Quaker youth network'; then request to 'friend' either the Leaveners or Children & Young People staff.



www.quaker.org.uk/cyp

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