

CIVIC PRIDE COLUMN – NOVEMBER by Abingdon Youth Voice

What is Abingdon Youth Voice?

Abingdon Youth Voice is funded by Abingdon Town Council as part of its Abingdon Integrated Youth Support initiative and facilitated by the Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project and The Abingdon Bridge. Youth workers from both organisations work together to support us.

We are a group of young people from Abingdon who are working collectively to get youth voices heard to make changes to improve the lives of young people in Abingdon. We are an inclusive group where diversity is valued – we can all have different opinions. It's a safe place for us where we can be creative, express ourselves and be who we want to be. We feel youth voice is important because it gives us the chance to have our say and be listened to as too often, decisions are made about us without anyone asking our opinion. We hope that the youth voice group will be able to influence and shape decisions about young people's spaces, services, and futures in the town.

We've been getting to know town councillors and understanding the different roles within a council to help inform our group. We've also been learning about Youth Voice through training sessions to help us create and deliver a Youth Consultation.

Our main focus moving forward, will be consulting young people through an online survey, and we will be going out into the community, speaking with young people to ensure we get as many responses as possible. We hope the survey will help us understand the needs of young people in Abingdon and spark lots of new ideas for the community. We have made a Facebook group called Abingdon Youth Voice which you can follow for the latest updates and a link to the survey (when it is published).

Alongside this, we will also be creating a map of Abingdon which will pinpoint all the youth provision in the town so we can have a clear picture of what is available for young people.

If you are a young person living in Abingdon, we welcome you to join our group! We currently meet on Monday evenings in the Town Centre. Contact us via Facebook @AbingdonYouthVoice or by email: abingdonyouthvoice@gmail.com

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Supported by:

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