

You have the right to an opinion and for it to be listened to and taken seriously – Article 12, United Nations Convention on The Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

DCYPPP Aims:

To give children and young people aged 8-25 years old who have a long-term disability or condition, the opportunity to have their say on issues that impact on them and their families.

Their views inform decision makers within local and regional government during their planning processes on issues which impact the lives of children and young people.

DCYPPP Objectives:

To empower young people with disabilities to know and exercise their rights.

To enable young people with disabilities to influence policy makers and service providers.

To provide capacity building activities that impact self-esteem, interpersonal relationships, emotional wellbeing and confidence.

To influence change within our society; locally and regionally.

To raise awareness of the issues faced by people with Disabilities.

DCYPPP is supported by BBC Children in Need, Southern Health and Social Care Trust and the Health and Social Care Board.



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Disabled
Children &
Young
People's
Participation
Project

Sixth Sense

Sixth Sense is a group for young people to learn about their rights and to share their views on issues which affect them and their peers.

The group meets monthly and during school holidays. There are often opportunities for young people within the group to be involved in consultation activities, research and to deliver training to professionals.



Past achievement of Sixth Sense members include: working with The Human Right Commission, UNCRC and QUB, Meeting MPs and MLAs, visits to Parliament Buildings and Buckingham Palace, delivering productions in Theatres, speaking at conferences and taking part in academic research.

School and Regional Programmes

Our School's Programme is delivered over 6 weeks to pupils across the 5 health trusts. The programme focuses on empowering young people with disabilities, teaching them about their rights and enabling them to make plans for their future. Representatives from local Health and Social Care Trusts attend to listen to the young people's views about issues affecting them and their peers in their area.



We undertake video conferencing with other youth groups across Northern Ireland in order to share experiences and to discuss issues affecting young people with disabilities.

Peer Coaching



Children in Need fund our Peer Coaching Project. We have trained young people to be peer

coaches; they meet with other young people who have similar life experiences on a weekly basis. This is supported by a staff member. The peer coaching programme aims to expand a young person's peer support network, increase their resilience, improve communication and enable them to be involved in decision making. The peer coaching programme has an emphasis on improving emotional well-being and mental health for children and young people with a disability.

