

1.1.3 Encourage young people to broaden their horizons to be active citizens

What this standard is about

This standard is about broadening the horizons of young people, and includes encouraging and supporting young people to become involved in their community, and also in wider communities, and to understand how to be effective in making a positive contribution to these communities. Such wider communities can include those outside their own group, and could include other social/cultural groups, and/or other national or global communities.

Who this standard is for

This standard is for youth workers involved in encouraging young people to become informed and engaged citizens, and in broadening their understanding of the wider community and their place within it.

Values and principles

Working with representatives of the sectors within youth work, LLUK has agreed a suite of values and principles which distinguish youth work from other, sometimes related, activities involving young people. These values and principles are at the core of the work undertaken within youth work and underpin this standard. The behaviours required within this standard include those which reflect particular values and principles.

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Outcomes

To meet the standard, you must be able to:

- 1 Explore constructively with young people the concept of citizenship including its relevance at local, national and international levels
- 2 Promote an awareness of the wider communities, and explore and identify the benefits of involvement with these
- 3 Explore and identify with young people their roles, rights and responsibilities in relationship to being an active citizen
- 4 Explore and identify young people's aims and aspirations regarding their involvement with wider communities, promoting and responding enthusiastically to ways of extending involvement
- 5 Promote discussion regarding ideas and routes towards affecting the decision-making process at local and national level, thereby promoting their involvement, voice and influence
- 6 Explore young people's perceptions regarding any potential barriers and constraints to their fulfilling their potential as active citizens, and identify actions towards addressing these responsibly and constructively
- 7 Involve young people in identifying and organising activities designed to enhance their knowledge and understanding of how they can develop their engagement as active citizens
- 8 Facilitate relevant activities designed to develop young people's engagement as active citizens and to become involved with, and to contribute positively to the wider community
- 9 Explore with young people the global context to personal, local and national decisions and actions
- 10 Reflect with young people on the learning points arising from activities relevant to their role as developing active citizens, and use this, to both reinforce the role of young people, and also to inform future actions

Behaviours

You demonstrate that you:

- 1 Treat young people with respect
- 2 Respect the rights and beliefs of others, and do not impose your own values upon those with different views
- 3 Encourage questions and check for understanding
- 4 Listen actively and respond constructively to any concerns
- 5 Value equality of opportunity and diversity, challenging oppression and discrimination

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Knowledge and understanding

To meet the standard, you must know and understand:

- 1 The benefits of encouraging and supporting young people to broaden their horizons, and in involving themselves in the wider community, and of being active citizens
- 2 What is meant by active citizenship, including its relation to families, local communities, local and national government, and in international affairs
- 3 The typical types of starting point for young people when considering how to develop their horizons
- 4 Available sources of support from other agencies towards broadening the horizons of young people, and how this can be accessed
- 5 The democratic process, and the role of local and central government, including key decision-making roles and responsibilities
- 6 The rights and responsibilities of individuals, and the impact for young people
- 7 Key principles of criminal and civil law, relevant to active citizenship amongst young people
- 8 The values and principles underpinning youth work
- 9 The nature and aims of the principal political parties
- 10 Key local, national and global issues, including issues associated with sustainability within youth work and their relationships to individuals and to each other
- 11 How citizenship is addressed in schools, and how youth work activities can complement this
- 12 Opportunities and activities towards enhancing young people's involvement in wider communities, and how to create and implement these
- 13 A range of activities that might be used to enhance young people's understanding of active citizenship, and their relative advantages and disadvantages
- 14 Possible barriers and constraints that young people may consider as hindering their ability to fulfil their potential as active citizens, and appropriate actions towards overcoming these
- 15 The importance of involving young people fully in exploring the opportunities towards enhancing their involvement so that they can take ownership of the process, and methods for achieving this