

Teenage Cancer Trust Youth Advisory Group member Role profile

What's the purpose of the group?

Teenage Cancer Trust are determined to make sure that young people are at the centre of what we do. We exist to support young people in the UK who are diagnosed with cancer between the ages of 13-24 during and post treatment. It is so important that we can learn from young people and continue to develop as a charity, which means we can provide the best support to young people now and in the future.

Our Youth Advisory Group is a key part of how we involve young people in the charity and will comprise of up to 30 young people from across the UK who bring a range of experiences, backgrounds and skills to a group environment. They will provide advice, inspiration and knowledge which enables Teenage Cancer Trust to understand what young people need from us.

Who can join?

To apply for YAG you must...

- Have been diagnosed with cancer between the ages of 13 - 24
- Have been supported by Teenage Cancer Trust in the last 2 years (i.e., since August 2020)
- Have finished treatment (this doesn't include maintenance treatment)

The group meet periodically and we will need you to be well enough to engage with these meetings- these will often be online but will include chance to have meetings in person.

Young people aged 13-17 are strongly encouraged to join YAG but will need consent from a parent/carer to apply and would need to be accompanied by a parent/carer to any in-person events or meetings.

What can you expect from us?

- A warm welcoming environment as a valued member of group of young people with a common purpose
- An induction pack and appropriate introductory training

- A range of opportunities to be involved in different projects with Teenage Cancer Trust – members can choose the things that interest them the most
- Regular communication and updates about Youth Advisory Group work
- In line with our [Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Strategy 2022-24](#), we want to make sure that this experience is as inclusive and accessible as possible. We welcome, value and respect everyone no matter what your identity or background is and want you to feel comfortable enough to be yourself.

What do we expect from you?

- Help create a welcoming environment by supporting other members of the group
- Welcome and respect all YAG members and Teenage Cancer Trust staff including people's age, disability, gender identity and expression, race and ethnic background, religious belief and sexual orientation
- Commit to attend at least 2 meetings per year and engage in online sessions
- Actively engage in topics and opportunities that YAG are working on
- Represent Teenage Cancer Trust appropriately e.g. at meetings and similar events
- Keep in contact with the Youth Engagement and Participation Team and help us to ensure that we are supporting their involvement in the project – e.g. Communicating with us about any requirements including making sure that YAG does not have a negative impact on individuals or other commitments.
- Tell us if circumstances change and they wish to 'pause' their involvement with YAG or leave the group.

What's so special about YAG?

YAG is designed to be representative of the diverse nature of young people across the UK who are diagnosed and treated for cancer. We don't expect YAG members to speak on behalf of others and we only ask that members bring their own experiences of being a young person who has been diagnosed and treated for cancer to help the group to inform our work. There is not a requirement for public speaking, sharing your story or being an advocate for other young people. Of course, there may be opportunities to challenge yourself to do some of these things or try other new experiences, but YAG membership is about participating at a level that works for you.



Typical tasks for YAG members

We can't predict exactly what tasks, topics and opportunities the next YAG will have during their time as a group, but previous projects have included:

- Presenting at our Find Your Sense of Tumour event
- Involvement in Teenage Cancer Trust's strategy
- Development work on Teenage Cancer Trust's core values:
 - DETERMINED, UNITED, SPIRITED, KIND
- Producing a poster for the Global AYA (Adolescent and Young Adults) Cancer Congress
- Involvement in recruitment of senior staff at Teenage Cancer Trust
- Short term project work in small groups with external partners
- Involvement in our Safeguarding Review
- Presentations at Teenage Cancer Trust 'Staff Day's'
- Feeding into our Annual Report
- Being a supportive member of a motivated and inclusive group who achieve great things
- Speaking to the Board of Trustees

This Role Profile explains individual responsibilities within YAG and can be referred to when filling in an application to join. Please also see our [Terms of Reference](#).