

Youth Employment UK Ambassadors Programme



About Youth Employment UK

We are the leading campaign and membership organisation dedicated to tackling youth unemployment in the UK. We place young people at the heart of the work we do to reduce youth unemployment and aim to ensure that every young person has the support they need to progress.

Our key objectives

- To give young people a voice and empower them to be more prepared for the world of work
- To help organisations be better equipped to support young people and adopt the Talent Match Mark
- To ensure that government policy is geared towards the real needs of young people

We created our Youth Ambassador Programme to ensure that young people are involved in shaping and influencing our work and are presented with the opportunity to design and deliver our youth-led initiatives.

Who are our Youth Ambassadors?

Our Ambassadors are a dynamic team of volunteers aged 16- 24 years old who work together to help tackle some of the youth employment barriers within society. Ambassadors sign up 10 - 15 hours volunteering time a month and in exchange we support them with opportunities to really make a difference as well as training, support and mentoring.

What do Youth Ambassadors do?

Volunteering focuses on four key areas of Youth Employment UK's on-going work to support young people in their journey towards employment:

- 1 Support young people to develop their skills, confidence and realise their potential
- 2 Encourage young people to share their experiences, barriers and challenges to employment whilst developing youth-led solutions
- 3 Support organisations to develop youth friendly policies and procedures to create more opportunities for all young people
- 4 Contribute to the national work of Youth Employment UK – blog, vlogging, attending events and conferences and responding to policy

Ambassadors are supported to deliver on these areas through a wide range of projects and ongoing support.

We believe that young people can be best placed to relate to and identify the challenges and needs in their local areas.

Regional teams supporting local initiatives

Youth Ambassadors are supported to develop their own localised ways to support young people and employers to engage in our programmes:

Youth Employment UK Young Professional : A free online tool which helps all young people to develop five key skills they need for education, employment or training. Ambassadors can support local young people to become Young Professionals through activities such as delivering engagement workshops in schools, colleges, universities and local community settings

Talent Match Mark: Youth Employment UK is home to the Talent Match Mark, an award framework that recognises and celebrates outstanding employers who support young people in their journey to work. Ambassadors can support organisations to achieve the Talent Match Mark through activities like;

- Promoting the Talent Match Mark at business breakfasts or employer conferences

- Meeting with local employers to support them to apply for a Talent Match Mark award

Ambassadors are also encouraged and supported to develop solution focussed projects which respond to local needs and policies in their regions:

Innovative initiatives: Ambassadors can start to develop innovative initiatives through activities that support young people in their local area and further afield. These projects consult, engage and enable other local young people to develop new and different approaches to working with young people within education and employment services.

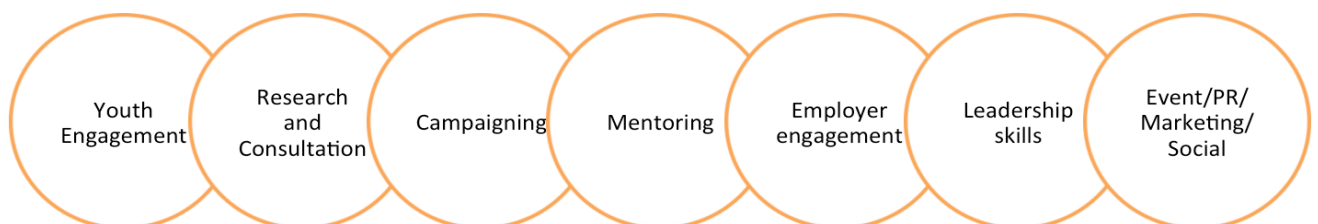
Ambassador Campaigning: Youth Ambassadors develop local campaigns and responses to policies and practices within education and employment services. Ambassadors can campaign through activities like;

- Writing blogs to respond to policies
- Engage with the media such as TV or radio to respond to current news or policy

Through these different areas of work Youth Ambassadors can help support young people in their journey towards employment. Through bringing together young people, policy makers and employers, Youth Ambassadors create real change within the education and employment arena.

Training

Youth Employment UK recognises that all Ambassadors have a wide range of skills sets which will support them to deliver their youth-led initiatives. Yet through becoming a Youth Ambassador young people are able to access a host of training programmes and workshops which will support them to become even more effective Youth Ambassadors:



Benefits to being a Youth Ambassador

Through becoming a Youth Ambassador you get access to a host of training but there are so many more benefits which will come your way. It may be that you gain personal satisfaction from helping others to making real changes to services young people access, being an Ambassador can open up lots of doors which may benefit you. Below are just a few of how you may benefit from being a Youth Ambassador:

- Enable local young people to have a voice and raise their issues and challenges with local/national policy and decision makers
- Develop innovative approaches based of young people's ideas which may overcome youth employment issues
- Undertake various forms of training to support your professional development and improve your CV
- Inform and influence government policy through attending the monthly All Party Parliamentary Group meetings at Westminster
- Network with employers which may lead to you securing a range of support in your own career development
- Gain recognition for your volunteering contributions by evidencing your volunteering activities through our Youth Employment UK Open Badge Academy and the Vinspired programme
- Support young people to upskill themselves and progress in their journey towards employment

How to become a Youth Employment UK Ambassador

Great so you want to become a Youth Employment UK Youth Ambassador? Visit <http://www.youthemployment.org.uk/ambassadors/> and scroll to the bottom of the page and complete the three easy steps to register as an Ambassador. Once completed our Youth Ambassador and Engagement manager will be in touch very soon to get you fully enrolled and engaged with your Youth Ambassador Regional Team.

Contact Neil Burke: Neil@youthemployment.org.uk
07899366455