

The Important Bits You Have To Know

If you are interested in joining the BDYA (which, naturally, of course you are) Here is some information that every member know...

- We rotate meeting venues for accessibility.
- The Youth Assembly follows a flexible meeting structure to meet the needs of the group and the issues that it is addressing. On average we meet once a month for a 2-3 hour meeting.



Just some of us achieving



Members of BDYA at Shadow 2006

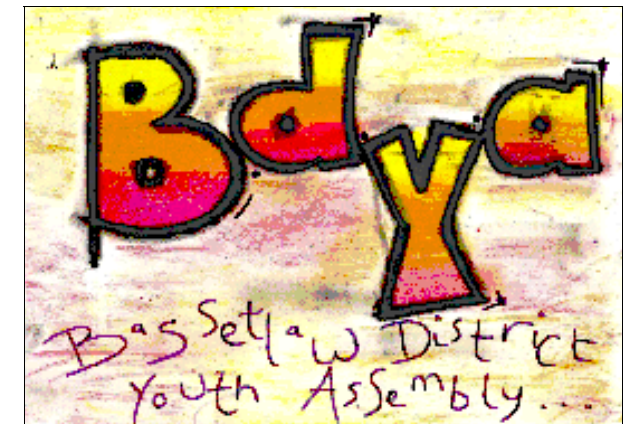
BDYA

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The Bassetlaw District Youth Assembly

What Is The BDYA??



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What Is The BDYA?

The Bassetlaw District Youth Assembly is a group of dedicated young people that work together and speak up for all those that don't have the chance to use their voice because they are either too afraid to speak up or do not get the support that young people deserve.

Young people in today's society are often classed by the media as vandals or mindless jobs that do nothing but destroy and mug the older generations for their last pennies. Well it's time that this perception changed!!

Young people today deserve the chance to have equal representation and the BDYA is just what the doctor ordered, so to speak. If the young people of today work together as one then we can have the chance to overturn these perceptions and show the public what we're really made of! We should demand to be seen and heard and shape the way that our town and future should be, after all we live here and we are the future!



What Does It Have To Offer Me?

The BDYA has plenty to offer young people, if they are willing to give the time and dedication that is needed. If we all give a bit of this so many things can be achieved.

As fantastic as the BDYA may sound, getting involved could be the start of many things, as they have been for other people. Former members have gone on to become highly respected people in our society such as:

- Members of Youthbank UK
- Members of the County Wide Youth Assembly (where there is the chance to be elected onto the executive committee for the countywide assembly)
- Members of UK Youth Parliament
- Members of the Local Management Committee (from this there is the chance to be elected onto the board of Connexions).

Now come on! How great would that look on a CV or a UCAS form for university?!

If the whole thing just sounds scary and you're the type of person who is shy and not keen to take part in things, then you're just like one of our current members...

"When the members of the BDYA first met I was so shy I would never put my views forward. I just sat there and kept quiet, I thought that what I had to offer wasn't valid. That was until I got to speak to other members in breaks and listened their views, I realised I had the same opinions and interests. Now every time I have an idea no matter how crazy it sometimes seems I put my hand up and make myself heard.

Through the BDYA my school work has picked up because I'm not scared to say what I want, and when it comes to presentations I'm always wanting to go first."



Still frightened that you will not make any friends? Well rest assured that you're not alone! To help you make those vital links we hold social events so you can let your hair down and have a real laugh showing people the real you.

FAQS

Don't you have to come dressed in suits and sit round listening to adults telling us what to do?

Definitely not! These meetings are led by young people and we say what's on the agenda and wear whatever clothes we want. We make the rules, but the adults are there to support us.

Do we ever get to have fun?

Of course! At least twice a year there is a social event chosen and agreed by the young people. This is a chance to have fun and congratulate ourselves for all the hard work we've done. Past activities have included bowling or watching films together.

What if I can't get to the meeting?

Again, this is where the support workers come in. If you have a problem give them a call and they will do all they can to make the meeting accessible to you.