



## **Youth participation within Young Roots – our aim and commitment**

Young Roots provides activities and support in response to the needs and interests of young asylum seekers and refugees. We believe that these young people are central to shaping the services we currently offer, as well as those we plan and develop in the future.

We are committed to encouraging, enabling and supporting young people to participate in the planning, reviewing and decision-making processes in all areas of our work and organisational development.

We also aim to give young people the skills to participate fully as individuals within their communities.

We work to reduce barriers for those who find it harder to participate. These barriers may be to do with young people's language skills, time, confidence, mental health issues or their understanding of the process. Information and support needs vary from person to person and so the best or most appropriate ways of involving young people also varies across different activities, support services, planning and decision-making processes within Young Roots. We will always try our hardest to make meaningful participation possible.

We recognise that some young people don't want to be involved in organisational planning and decision-making and that this might change over time. However our processes will always welcome and value input from all young people and will offer a range of different ways for them to be involved when they feel able to.