

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

Commitment required: A voluntary, two-year opportunity (all expenses covered)

November 2025-November 2027

Supervised and supported by: Youth Voice Specialist

The UK Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK) has had a Youth Advisory Board since 2019.

We are looking for eight young people from across the UK who are passionate about making the world a better place for children and in learning new skills to help them champion children's rights.

ABOUT THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Our work is guided by the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) - an important agreement by countries who have promised to protect children's rights. The UNCRC explains all the rights children have, and the responsibilities of governments.

The Convention explains that children have the right to give their opinions freely on issues that affect them. It also says that adults should listen and take them seriously, as explained in 'Article 12' of the Convention. At UNICEF UK we have a Youth Advisory Board – to help us work with children and young people in a meaningful way.

Youth Advisory Board (YAB) members are passionate about UNICEF's efforts to ensure rights are realised for all children. Our YAB inform and influence our work, bringing youth voice to the heart of the organisation.

You can read more about the work of the Youth Advisory Board here

ABOUT THE ROLE

Members of the Youth Advisory Board support UNICEF UK by:

- Being a public voice speaking up on behalf of UNICEF UK and other children and young people, about children's rights.
- Providing insight using their knowledge of what appeals to young people, influencing decision-making at UNICEF UK s.
- Raising awareness using their online and offline networks to promote children's rights and help people understand UNICEF UK's work

Ways of Working:

- The group will **meet fortnightly** via **video call** to work as a team and learn about UNICEF's work for children around the world. Fortnightly meetings will last around 45 minutes timings will be confirmed once new YAB members are in-post.
- The group will also meet three times a year, for in-person meetings/workshops and collaborative projects.
- There will be some work to do outside of the meetings and opportunities to take part in events.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

	Successful applicants
Communication skills	will be an enthusiastic voice for the organisation, sharing UNICEF messaging as well as the YAB's own priorities, in their own words
Children's Rights	Will have an interest in children's rights. They will receive some child rights training during their time on the YAB, and champion a child rights-based approach in all their activities
Citizenship	Have some understanding of the importance of other youth networks, social action and community-based activities including things like school councils, iwill, GirlGuiding or Scouting
Age	Must be between 14 and 18 years of age at the time of application
Location	Must live and study in the UK for the duration of their term on the Youth Advisory Board
Commitment	Agree to a two-year term – completing onboarding/induction training, and attending and participating in: • Fortnightly video calls, workshops and meetings • Quarterly weekend meetings (three in-person and one online) • Whole YAB projects • Individual projects

Young people who have a close family member who works for, or is a Trustee for UNICEF UK, are not eligible for this opportunity.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

UNICEF UK is an inclusive organisation and we embrace diversity because we know that bringing together people with different experiences, perspectives and backgrounds will lead to even greater results for children. That includes our Youth Advisory Board members. We encourage applications from young people from all backgrounds, identities and lived experiences including those who are LGBTQ+, Black, Asian or another minoritised ethnicity, disabled, young carers, refugees, and low-income backgrounds, as well as those living in rural areas.

Lots of learning and development opportunities are offered to make sure that YAB members get as much from the experience as possible.

In most cases, travel/accommodation arrangements for Youth Advisory Board activity will be made in advance by UNICEF UK. Where this is not possible pre-agreed travel expenses for YAB members and their parent/carer (if under 18) will be reimbursed afterwards.

We will make adjustments where needed to remove barriers to participation. That means things like:

- paying for a Personal Assistant/Carer or interpreter/translator if you use one
- providing printed materials in advance of a meeting, in a format that's accessible for you

We have information available for parents/carers and/or your school/college to help make sure your family and support networks understand what being part of the YAB is all about.

WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

Youth Advisory Board members will:

- Be part of UNICEF's efforts to make a difference, and ensure rights are realised for all children.
- Work as a team and build relationships with other young people passionate about making a difference to the lives of children, globally
- Learn new skills, have new experiences and get involved lots of opportunities to work with different teams across the organisation
- Help influence UNICEF UK's work.
- Get support from UNICEF UK colleagues with regular check-ins with our Youth Voice Specialist who
 will support you shape opportunities to ensure that youth voice is always central to the work we do

When you apply, please tell us if you have any access requirements, you'd like us to know about.