



Our Year 2022

We have listened and now it is time to act together to create a comprehensive offer of activities, experiences and opportunities.

Between June and November **1198** Children and Young People's voices across Manchester from over **70** different settings were gathered in preparation for Our Year



“Growing up in a city that feels safe and welcoming to everyone. Having places that I can visit with my friends and family, that are easy to get to and are free or very cheap”

“I like to socialise and meet with likeminded people. I’m interested in local politics and making my community better for everyone”

“Wildlife, outdoor places to play and cleaner air”

“Friends, family, community”





What do you think should be included in the year of children and young people?

Firstly I would like to say that in my opinion young people should have a chance for a day to do what they want to be when I am older, because it will help the kids what they want to be when they are older. I would like to address that children should learn about money and how to save money, because you don't spend all your money when you are older. And lastly I would like to say that you should have an chance to go and see different careers. And that is good because they can understand what they want to do when they are older and look at other people work.

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What do you think should be included in the year of children and young people?

As a part of the future of Manchester, I feel we as children, should have a right to say what we think should be changed or thought out differently. To begin with, it all starts with school. We should be able to learn the subjects we want to focus on in the future so lessons are more enjoyable, maybe we could even have career days to speak about what we want to become in future. Since children aren't able to choose what they want to do individuals over 16 should be able to vote in places of elections or similar. To support students also uniforms should be affordable and easy to buy to cause less struggle.

GIVE CHILDREN THE VOTE!

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Themes

- **'Safe and Secure'** -Young people told us that they need and want to feel safe in their communities
- **'Our Future'**- access to education and opportunities for environmental sustainability. A cleaner, greener city was cited amongst many responses
- **'Feeling Connected'** – The need to feel connected to family and friends and also access to affordable and accessible transport across the city



Themes

- **Health and Well-being'** – Young people need and want access to activities and services that promote good mental and physical health
- **Equal and included'** – The need for activities and services to be inclusive and accessible to all
- **'Play and having fun stuff to do'**- it was recognised the importance of having safe, local and clean spaces for children and young people to play with their friends



Events/ Activities/ Campaigns

- International Women's Day – Young Women focus- March
- Manchester Day – Young person focused – 21st June
- Children's Safeguarding Conference – July 6th
- Youth Council to meet in council chambers – Weekly
- Green Festival/Events- May



Events/ Activities/ Campaigns

- National Play Day- Local events – 3rd August
- Enhanced Holiday Activities offer across the City
- International Day of Peace – 21st September
- UNICEF- World Children's Day- November



Events/ Activities/ Campaigns

Open Invitation/ Call To Action for all to co-design with young people ideas/ events to support the themes

To celebrate the great work already happening, and support Manchester's ambition to become a child friendly city

All events, campaigns, awareness days will be promoted on the Our Year website www.ouryear.uk



Full Council – 1st December

On the 1st December young people from across Manchester attended and presented at full council and spoke passionately about the issues important to them. Further demonstrating that the voices, needs, priorities and rights of children are integral and at the heart of what we plan to do.



Business Engagement Event

On the 1st December Business Leaders and private sector partners came together to hear about how they could get involved through sponsorship packages and/or pledges. We have had a positive response with a number of 'in principle' commitments. A further business briefing is scheduled for the 1st of February. A number of Our Year Ambassadors have been identified who will use their influence and expertise to bring about positive change and raise awareness of the year long campaign, and beyond.



UNICEF- Child Friendly City- Submission

In a Child-Friendly City, the voices, needs, priorities and rights of children are an integral part of policies, programmes and decisions. Manchester will be a city where children have opportunities to make friends, get a good start in life, are healthy and cared for, can participate in family, cultural and community life, live in a clean environment with green spaces to play, and have fair life-chances.



How can you support

- Promoting and championing Our Year
- Reflecting on what young people have told us
- Arranging, supporting or encouraging others to arrange Our Year events in your area
- Ensuring the rights of children are an integral part of policies, programmes and decisions.

