

PARTICIPATION STANDARDS



Listening to and including children and young people from start to finish.



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These Participation Standards are a checklist for anyone involving children and young people in decision-making in Jersey.

Children, young people and professionals were all involved in creating these together.

[gov.je/yoursay](https://www.gov.je/yoursay)

Listen



All children and young people have opportunities to be listened to, included and involved in decisions that affect their lives.

Children and young people should be able to say:

I know how to get involved in decisions that affect my life in Jersey.

I feel listened to and included from the start.

I find it easy to take part and have support when I need it.

I don't feel left out because of my age or who I am.



What adults will do:

We will ensure children and young people are included, listened to and have all the information they need when we ask them to get involved in decision-making.

Choice



All children and young people have a right to choose or consent to be involved or change their mind.

Children and young people should be able to say:

I understand the questions I am being asked.

I can choose to get involved or not.

I have enough information and time to make a choice.

I know it's okay for me to stop taking part if I want to.



What adults will do:

We will ensure children and young people are given a choice to get involved or not.

Information



All children and young people have information about their involvement that is easy to understand, fun or interesting.

Children and young people should be able to say:

I have information that is easy to read, right for my age and it's in my language.

I understand the information that's given to me.

I can take part in fun or interesting activities when having my say.

I can ask for help if I don't understand something.



What adults will do:

We will ensure the information is easy to read and understand, and work with children and young people in fun or interesting ways.

Safe



All children and young people feel safe and supported when having a say.

Children and young people should be able to say:

I have support to help me have a say, if I need it.

I feel safe to say what I think.

I can trust what I contribute will be valued.

I can share my ideas in a safe space.



What adults will do:

We will ensure all children and young people have a safe space to express their views and feel safe and supported when having a say.

Respect



All children and young people are treated with kindness and their views and ideas are valued.

Children and young people should be able to say:

I feel my ideas and rights are respected and valued.

I am kind and don't stop others from taking part or being listened to.

People are kind and say thank you for taking part and giving my time.

I am listened to and taken seriously.



What adults will do:

We will ensure all children and young people's views are respected and they are thanked for taking part.

Influence



All children and young people's views and ideas have a genuine and direct influence on decision-making.

Children and young people should be able to say:

I feel people are being honest and tell me what is happening and why.

I know who is listening and what will happen to my ideas.

I think what I said will be taken seriously.

I know where my opinions are going to be used.



What adults will do:

We will ensure children and young people's views, ideas and opinions are listened to acted on as appropriate.

Feedback



All children and young people are listened to and receive feedback.

Children and young people should be able to say:

People celebrate who I am and the difference I make.

My contribution made a difference.

People keep in touch and explain decisions clearly.

Taking part was worth it!



What adults will do:

We will ensure children and young people are told how their ideas have been used and why.