The McPin Young People's Advisory Group



Who is the McPin YPAG?

The McPin YPAG is our first and longest standing Young People's Advisory Group (YPAG).

Formed in 2017 as part of the <u>Right People's Right Questions Project</u>, the group has played a vital role in the birth and evolution of our Youth Involvement Programme at McPin.

The group consists of 20 members aged 13-28 from across the country, all of which have experience of different mental health difficulties. Together they are merged with our McPin/KCL YPAG.

We open recruitment for new members when people 'age out' and move onto the McPin Involvement Network (our network for adults interested in involvement opportunities), or if members choose to leave the YPAG due to other commitments.

What is the role of the group?

The McPin YPAG is at the centre of our youth involvement programme. Its role is quite different to our project-specific YPAGs, who are recruited specifically to advise on a particular project from start to finish.

Some of the things the McPin YPAG does include:

- Supporting the development of new youth research proposals (e.g. co-facilitating consultation workshops, <u>speaking with researchers at our meetings</u>, or reviewing requests).
- Contributing to the McPin organisational strategy
- Keeping up to date with the different youth projects at McPin and leading by example (e.g. some members sit on our other groups).
- Supporting our social media channels by advising on, and creating new, engaging content.
- Participating in our development opportunities of new and existing skills such as: design, public speaking, blog writing, reviewing and research skills.

Which projects are the McPin YPAG involved with?

As with our other YPAGs, occasionally the group will be involved in advising on specific research projects.

At the moment, it is involved with the following projects:

- Medically Undisclosed Symptoms
- E-Risk project
- Centring young people in mental health research

Examples of their involvement on past projects are:

- Right People, Right Questions
- Screen time

We meet regularly both online and in person at our London offices. We are in frequent contact over email to discuss new research proposals that we are approached about, and to keep tabs on the many moving parts of the Young People's Network.

We also recently attended an exciting <u>youth mental health conference in Copenhagen.</u>

Where can I find more information?

For more information about our YPAG, please contact Rachel Temple on racheltemple@mcpin.org.

If you would like our YPAG's input on your project, take a look at our <u>information for</u> researchers.