



### Medway Youth Council

#### Inclusion (Support with transport, access to ICT and care requirements) strategy

The Medway Youth Council is committed to ensuring that MYC is an inclusive environment, meaning that the Youth council aims to ensure that all young people can access the organisation.

The Medway Youth Council follows the United Nations definition of inclusion as *‘the process of improving the terms of participation in society, particularly for people who are disadvantaged, through enhancing opportunities, access to resources, voice and respect for rights.’*

The Medway Youth Council recognises the barriers to participation, which may include, and is not be limited to: Bad relationships with parents, friends and peers, discrimination, stereotyping, bullying, racism, a lack of facilities, lack of information on existing facilities, lack of action to information communication technology (ICT), lack of access to transport provision and the cost of activities.

#### The Medway Youth Council also recognises the groups of young people who are most at risk of not having their voice heard:

**These groups are the following:** the LGBTQ+ young people, young parents, care leavers, migrants and young people from ethnic minorities, young people who speak English as an additional language, young people who are being bullied, young people from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, unemployed young people, young people in an economically deprived situation, those who are not academically gifted, early school leavers, young people with poor social skills, young people with disabilities, young people in the care system, homeless young people, young people from a minority background, young people who are not on social media, and adult young persons living at home.

These groups are those that may require additional support.

We recognise that we may not always be able to meet the needs of young people, however we will work to ensure a robust strategy can be developed to meet specific needs.

- **Transport:**

- Members will be required to make their own way to the Medway Youth Council Office at Gun Wharf, Chatham, ME4 4TR.
- Transport for conferences outside of Medway will be provided by the Youth Council, including travel and train tickets for visits relating to the British Youth Council or UK Youth Parliament.
- The youth worker may occasionally be able to provide provision for transport. This should be discussed with the youth worker.
- In exceptional circumstances, we can reimburse bus fares and train fares - This should be discussed with the youth worker.

- **Access to ICT:**

- The Youth Council has computers which can be used by members to access the internet.
- Wi-Fi is provided in the Youth Council office, through the Medway Council Public WIFI.
- The Youth Council office has telephone access which members may use to make calls in relation to MYC or to make necessary calls.
- Should a member not have access to an email account at home, they can set an email account up at the Medway Youth Council office and check it when they visit.
- Necessary provisions will be made when access to ICT poses a barrier to MYC participation.

- **Care Requirements:**

- Youth workers will take responsibility for the wellbeing of young people at meetings and on trips and visits.
- Youth workers will offer assistance regarding any additional needs that a young person may have so that they can access and take part in meetings and activities.
- The Chair will also work with the youth worker to promote safeguarding and support meeting the additional needs of members.