

Grow and expand your projects through engaging with young people

KSB has chosen the [Year of Young People](#) as the 2018 theme for Beautiful Scotland and It's Your Neighbourhood groups to focus activities and celebration events on (to help groups engage with a younger audience and to drop the average age of their volunteers!).

During the annual seminar on 25 October 2017, delegates took part in a workshop focused on the theme, and discussed which young people their groups already work with and in what ways; young people they would like to work with and ideas for how to do this; and highlighted two of these their group would try to engage with in 2018.

Below are the findings from this workshop – a lot of work with young people is going on already, and there are some great ideas:

1. Average age of the members/volunteers in your group

30s - Alexandria Community Growing Space
30s – Gerrard Street
30+ - Queens Cross Housing Association groups
39 - Falkirk delivers

40+ - Crombie Village
45+ (school volunteers: 16+)

50 – Friends of Holmhills
59- Bee Happy Houston (44-82)
50s – Cove
50+ - Dundee Miley
58 – Brighter Bervie
50s/60s – Bonnie Dundee (4-75)

60 – Brighter Bucksburn
60s – Dyce
63
64 – Brighter Bothwell (average age of committee = 70)
65 – Kinnesswood in Bloom
65 – Milngavie in Bloom
65 – Blooming Haddington (50-75)
67

70 – Colourful Kilmacolm
74 – Uddingston Pride (average age focused on active members)

2. Discuss the young people your group engages with and how it does this

- Duke of Edinburgh Award volunteers – gardening
- Worked with Scouts and young people (youngest two years old) on litter picks
- Worked with schools on the Royal Horticultural Society's 'Greening Grey Britain' theme
- Special needs school - funding for security gates
- High schools – information on conservation, history & heritage
- Nurseries – outdoor learning
- Primary schools – gardening days – dedicated planters; gardening competitions (education)
- Explorer Scouts – Queens Award assistance
- Children's gala days/Christmas/Halloween- community & local schools
- Brownies – planting; litter picks

- Local nursery – involvement in planting & design of a planter; children’s competition in Science Centre
- Primary school has garden and bug mansion – eldest group member went to talk to pupils
- Children’s nursery – small area where they can get involved and have a growing project
- Primary 1s and 2s - planting crocuses with Rotary group for Project polio
- Brownies & Guides doing general tidying
- Developing relationship with secondary school
- Evangelical church
- Nursery school children – Welly Wednesdays
- Volunteers families – growing, painting planting seeds & plug plants
- Primary school children – bulb planting/sorting
- Organised groups – Scouts/Boys Brigade/Guides/Cubs
- Groovy Growits – workshops (RHSA) in Duthie Park
- Academy in Dyce – working with Health Centre
- Bucksburn Academy – John Muir Award
- Queens Cross Housing Association groups – growers children; youth group; kids outdoors
- Special needs groups – making bird boxes etc.
- University students – volunteer gardening
- Surrounding neighbours help with growing with parents, litter picking, seed sowing, bulb planting, children attend events. Groups - Guides, Scouts, dancing groups, after-school groups; limited involvement with schools.
- Strone Primary School – use Blairmore Gardens for outdoor learning
- Ardentinny Outdoor Centre
- Innellan Primary – garden club; Innellan nursery
- Payback team
- Kirn Primary & Nursery; Dunoon Grammar School; Youth Group; Scouts; Guides; Community Group; Dunoon Hostel
- Children planting trees & bulbs
- Youths drumming at Park Fest (includes special needs children)
- University circus group do juggling workshops
- University frisbee group has ‘join in’ sessions
- Junior pipe band
- Schools use wetlands for biodiversity study
- Welly Walkers group
- Mudpies group from Learning Centres
- Buggy walkers mums group
- Global Goals – Aberdeen
- Aberdeen Play Forum
- Young kayakers group
- Sunday school picnics
- Rosies Social Enterprise Picnic
- App development for tree identification
- Playboat naming party & name competition
- Children decorating planters with seashells
- Organised play sessions in park
- Holiday school clubs

- Nature Nutters
- Attic Lounge – adults & kids club
- Sea cadets
- Community days with families
- Grandchildren roped in
- Youth groups – use the hall; mountain bikes
- Toddlers -use the hall; garden – digging etc.
- Orchard, work experience with secondary schools; volunteering week (painting, planting, greenhouse)

3. Discuss young people your group hasn't engaged with and ideas of how you could

- Burgh Beautiful Linlithgow – Army Cadets: positive response to initial approach to help with area of abandoned ground; Linlithgow Young People's Project
- Extend links with primary school – possibly develop wildlife area; enlist support of parents & grand parents
- Scouts; Guides; Rainbows; Girls Brigade
- Football clubs
- Youth Fellowship
- Barnardos
- Boys Brigade – work to encourage more response
- Eco-Schools & Uniformed groups; & High School of Dundee
- Teenagers – look to motivate; understand; listen to; look at awards trying to achieve & create a common goal; engagement events designed to attract; showcase achievements to create interest & enthusiasm in others; large scale art projects – history & heritage; engage with colleges
- Local high school – maybe John Muir Award link
- Secondary schools – difficult to enthuse teaching staff
- After school groups – “don't have time to get involved”
- Health professionals – get them to recommend involvement; also give us contact details to encourage them
- Adult helpers not always keen on engaging with children (requirement for PVG)
- Organised groups – Scouts/Guides etc. – timing can be a problem i.e. dark nights
- Engage with equestrian groups
- Driving for Disabled (horse & cart)
- Secondary schools
- Private nurseries
- Special needs groups
- Church youth groups
- Nursery, primary & secondary link up for educational purposes
- Food growing – schools
- Bumblebee workshops
- Scouts – litter scouting & picking
- Horticultural students – practicing
- Duke of Edinburgh/John Muir – for awards (community service)
- Job seekers – something to do
- School curriculum input regarding various aspects of interest

- Teenagers – very hard to get (e.g. drinking dens – how to contact young people who drink & drop cans); young people don't like gardening!
- Local schools, nurseries lunch club people: welly collection for planters (send out flyers) – end of winter season
- Children's Home
- 15-30 age group cannot be attracted
- Committee members going into schools
- Plan what jobs they could get involved with (e.g. planting, citizen science); think about safety/tools etc.
- Speak to involved adults; get involved in allotments
- Come up with ideas of things to do
- Phone apps
- Rewards & thank you events
- Appropriate groups i.e. children must have some interest at the outset
- Support (from staff) on school trips
- Build in curriculum subjects – orienteering; surveys – insects, wildflowers fungi
- Mixed age and mixed ability groups
- Cooking
- Bulb planting open to the community
- Get whole families – ceilidh; fun run; Burns night; beetle drive (great fun!)
- Link young people to 'struggling' older people e.g. sweep leaves; construct e.g. raised beds
- Bring children into gardening projects (14-20 year olds)
- Encourage young people – making smoothies with fruit and veg
- Specific project
- Social media

4. The challenge: choose two young people groups you will engage with in 2018

- Bonnie Dundee – Eco-Schools & High School of Dundee: engage with them using projects; encourage their ideas in these projects
- Blooming Haddington – Knox Academy & Uniformed group
- Bee Happy Houston – Scouts & Guides: get their help in planter design & planting for 2018
- Falkirk Delivers – College students (16-24year olds); primary schools
- Dundee Miley – reconnect with local secondary schools; nurseries
- Pacitti – nursery; primary; secondary
- Kilmacolm – Scouts & Guides groups; primary & nursery
- Crombie Village - teenagers
- Brighter Bervie – secondary pupils & special needs pupils
- Kinnesswood in Bloom – playgroup and parents
- Milngavie in Bloom – contact with all local schools
- Brighter Bucksburn – Children's Home
- Start with Beavers/out of school groups
- Try harder to involve schools (be more persistent)
- Secondary school – contact head master and explain. Offer John Muir & Duke of Edinburgh and talks; science subjects? Field trips? Young Scot Award; SCVO Award
- Pre school groups in community centre/nursery schools
- Visiting school groups – for wildlife surveys on beach; play sessions in our playpark

- Encourage university groups to share skills
- Ideas - driftwood art; Adopt a planter; sand art on beach
- We will discuss with our groups how to take this challenge forward. Then need to get ideas from the young people in our groups.
- Create leaflets covering various groups involved in gardening – send/hand out to nurseries
- Nurseries – get them involved in ‘hands on’ projects
- Scouts – get them to help/organise the younger children
- Older children
- Special needs children
- Secondary/high school pupils (including seriously academic students)– pollinator survey; collecting data; soil survey; venue for field trips