

Youth Matters

CONFERENCE | 2022 REPORT



Together
we can make
the difference

What Disabled Young People Told The Conference



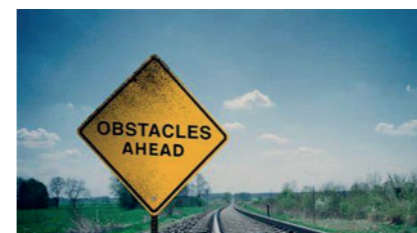
We are all different and that is good.



We don't need extra pressure put on us.



We want to be free to have abilities, hopes, dreams.



We don't need things getting in our way.



We don't need things stopping us living the lives we choose.



We know things change all the time.



We know it is important to have a balance between what we want and what we can do.



It is different for everyone.

And depends on what we want, our skills, our aims, the things around us

and the help we get.



When we come together to celebrate our differences it gives us power.

When we talk openly, talk about our goals, fears and the things we have in common it makes us feel safe.

Disabled young people want:



We want to be ourselves all the time.

We want everyone to see us as we are.



We want you to accept us.



We want you to respect us.



We want you to know our self-worth



Understand

We want you to understand us.



We want to feel safe enough to make mistakes.



We want you to value what we do in all the communities we are in.

We want you to value our lives.



We want to learn and grow from our mistakes.



We want to be able to keep on working towards being the very best we can be.



We want to be able to make decisions about things that change our lives.



We want you to help us with the correct advice and information when we need it.



We want to be in the conversations about the things that change our lives.



We want to have the correct support when we need it.



We want to keep on studying.



We want to have paid work.



We want to keep on volunteering.



We want to keep on training.



We want to do all this after we leave school.

The Steering Group for Youth Matters 2022 made the following recommendations:



More people in Dumfries and Galloway need to be aware of disabled young people.



We can plan events to raise awareness about this.



We need to help people who are affected by the cost of living crisis



Advice, training and jobs need to be more accessible.



We want disabled young people to have all the same hopes, choices and chances as every other young person in Dumfries and Galloway.

What's Next?
The Youth Matters Steering Group, supported by DG Voice, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Third Sector D&G, The Usual Place and others, will:



Will have a big celebration to share this report.



Make sure that all disabled young people in D&G learn about the findings in this report



We want everyone to know about how valuable disabled young people are.



Make sure that all the suggestions from this report go to the people who make policies in Dumfries and Galloway



We want everyone to know that we have needs, desires just like you.



A **policy** is a set of ideas or a plan of what to do in certain situations. This plan has been officially agreed by a group of people



We want everyone to know that disabled young people can be all they want to be.



Keep finding ways to help disabled young people connect with each other.



We want these successes to be celebrated.



We want these recommendations to be the main part of community planning.



We want to connect disabled young people with people who make decisions.



We want this to happen now and in the future.



We want people to keep talking and learning together.

The partner organisations will keep on helping the Youth Matters Steering Group.



We want to make sure that the people who make decisions understand what disabled young people are talking about.





Easy read for you

