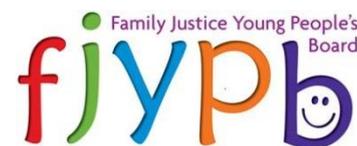
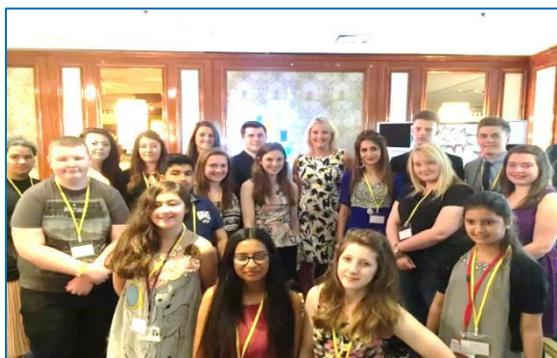


FJYPB Background information and Outcomes



The Family Justice Young People's Board (FJYPB) is an advisory sub group to the Family Justice Board and we have over 50 children and young people from diverse backgrounds who have had direct and indirect experience of public and private law proceedings. We accept members aged between 7 – 25 years and currently our youngest member is aged 9 years old.

The Cafcass Board supports the work of the Family Justice Board by enabling Young People to have a direct say in the way in which services for Children and Young People are run and to make sure that they are child centred.



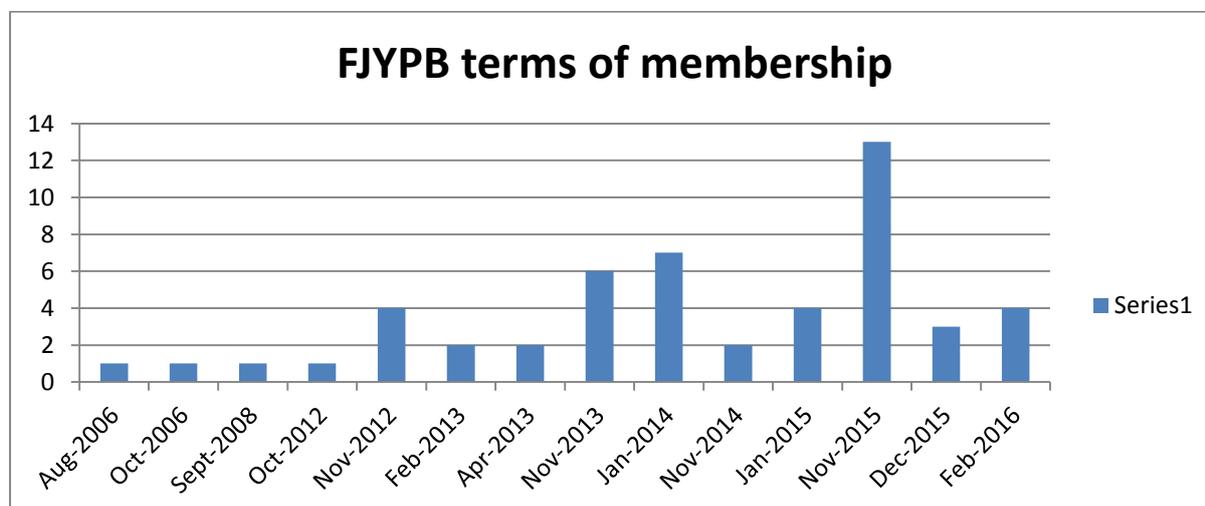
The FJYPB have recently recruited **20** new members and three of whom reside in Wales. We currently have **51** FJYPB members.

- 7 members are aged between 7-10 years.
- 31 members are aged between 11 – 17 years.
- 13 members are aged between 18 – 25 years.

Of those FJYPB members listed **41** are female

and **10** are male.

Board members are from a range of cultural and socio economic backgrounds. Some of our members also have additional learning and or health needs.



The above chart shows the times when the current FJYPB have been appointed. As you can see in November 2015 we recruited and have retained the most FJYPB members (13). In 2015 three FJYPB members formally retired, having reached the age of 25 years old. The longest term of a current serving member is 10 years.

The majority of members have had direct experience of public or private law family court proceedings. The Board regularly recruits new members and this helps to ensure that membership of the Board reflects a wide range of recent experiences of proceedings, but also more historical experiences.

Due to many of the commissions that the FJYPB are asked to undertake occurring during school term time, it is often necessary to use the older board members who have greater flexibility in their availability. The FJYPB's own commissions and workshops are arranged during school holidays and at weekends to allow more of our members to attend.

On average the FJYPB undertaken 10 -15 commissions per month. Some months or weeks are busier in line with school holidays.

Comments from FJYPB members

"Being a member of the FJYPB is first and foremost a great privilege to be part of a group of children and young people who dedicate large proportions of spare time, working hard to make sure that the family justice system is child friendly and child inclusive. Knowing that the work we do is for the benefit of the children, to make sure that their voice is heard through times of family difficulties brings great job satisfaction. Even if we manage to do good for one child or young person, this is better than helping no one at all. The scope of our work is nationwide and the impact we can make to make the family justice system a more child inclusive one is why we need more children and your people to help."

"Being a member of the FJYPB is a great way of improving the lives of many young people throughout the country. I have been on the board for five years now and have inspected Cafcass offices throughout the country, met with several ministers, presented at staff development days and even met visiting judges from Bangladesh and Georgia! The work really is wide ranging but if you are dedicated, organised and passionate for the causes we care about, you will find being a member of the board an incredibly rewarding experience".

"I was an attendee last year (Voice of the Child Conference 2015), now a board member – the VoTC conference helped me to open up and develop my personal skills."

Regular updates from the FJYP Board

The FJYPB regularly updates its information online and resources, these can be found on the [Ministry of Justice](#) and [Cafcass](#) websites.

The Board also submits regular update reports to each Cafcass Board and Family Justice Board meeting. Every month, a member of the Board also writes an article about issues affecting children and young people, which features in the [Cafcass external newsletter](#).

Family Justice Young People's Board

May 2016