

Family Justice Young People's Board – Terms of Reference

Aim

1. The Family Justice Young People's Board (FJYPB) is a group of approximately 50 children and young people aged between 8 and 25 years old who live across England and Wales. All members have either had direct experience of the family justice system or have an interest in children's rights and the family courts.
2. The overall aim of the Young People's Board is to support the work of the Family Justice Board which is to deliver improvements to the family justice system so that it provides the best outcomes for children who come into contact with the family justice system.
3. The FJYPB help ensure that the work of the Family Justice Board is child centred and child-inclusive by enabling young people to have a direct say in its work. In doing this, it will work closely with other young people's groups and all stakeholders within family justice.

Focus

1. In delivering on Aim, FJYPB will focus on promoting the voice of thousands of children and young people that experience family breakdown, including children and young people who are not the subject of court proceedings.
2. How this is taken forward varies depending on the context:
 - a) Court based;
 - b) Out of court dispute resolution as the current focus is on moving cases out of court and ensuring that the voice of the child remains involved.

Objectives

3. Key priorities for the Board are:
 - a) Development and launch of the Board's National Charter;
 - b) Promoting and developing child inclusive practices across agencies through training and development work, involvement with policy development and review of process and family justice services;
 - c) Reviewing information leaflets and other supporting material available to children and young people going through the family justice system, ensuring the information is child friendly and engaging;
 - d) Identifying and challenging non-child friendly practices and making recommendations for change;
 - e) Continuing to be involved in family justice policy development and contributing viewpoints on policy products.