

**YOUTH STRATEGY MENU**

**Background:** As part of the District Youth Strategy, Circuits were encouraged to write their own Circuit Youth Strategy. This “pick n mix” menu is designed to give Circuits some ideas of what might be included in their strategy and is designed to promote discussion and discernment.

This “menu” is designed for Circuits to pick which might fit their context and adopt some (and not all) of these suggestions. Of course, Circuits are also encouraged to think of other aspects that might be included that are not covered in this “pick n mix” menu.

**MENU FOR CIRCUITS TO CONSIDER:**

1. Conduct a youth audit within the Circuit.
* Young people attending worship
* Youth groups / meetings
* Uniformed organisations connected with the local church
1. Youth work to become a standing item on Church Council and Circuit Meeting Agendas.
2. Set aside an annual youth budget – accessible for young people to attend learning / training opportunities / youth trips and activities.
3. Create opportunities for the voices of young people to be heard within the local church and Circuit – be innovative in how to do this.
4. Create a questionnaire for young people to express their views in relation to worship / mission and ministry in the church.
5. Audit where ecumenical / other denominational youth projects are taking place within the Circuit – seek to support and partner with existing youth projects.
6. Seek funding to employ a youth worker within the local church / Circuit.
7. Recruit and train volunteer members to run / assist in youth work provision.
8. Commit to a timed period of prayer and discernment in relation to God’s call in the church regarding mission to young people. Outline how this discernment will take place.
9. Look to join with neighbouring Circuits in youth work provision.
10. Run a youth drop in / after school provision.
11. Incorporate young people in leading worship / sharing testimony and prayer – provide opportunities for young people to share their ideas / calling and preferences for worship.
12. Create time within worship once per month (or more) for young people to share / lead worship.
13. Appoint a Circuit Youth Development Team to write a strategy and co-ordinate youth provision and mission.
14. Appoint a Circuit lead role / person for youth work and youth mission.
15. Run a Youth Alpha Course / Youth Confirmation Course…. times per year.
16. Run a youth Bible Study / online Bible provision specifically for young people.
17. Purchase youth resources e.g. Youth Bibles, Youth for Christ session resources.
18. Create a space within your church building for young people to feel comfortable and welcome – e.g. youth led discussion on location / furnishings / use of space.
19. Run a Circuit wide activity for young people…. times per year.

Version 1 - Drafted by the Youth Development Group

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