



Youth Climate Justice

Information for Young Advisors' Supporting Adults

This research project has received funding from the European Research Council under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Grant agreement No. 101088453).



What is the Youth Climate Justice project?

All across the world, children and young people are standing up for their rights and leading different types of climate action such as taking legal action, protesting or taking action at home, school, in the community, and online.

We are a team of researchers at University College Cork in Ireland who want to understand more about children and young people's climate action across different countries and what this means for children's rights. We are involved in an exciting new research project called Youth Climate Justice. [Click here to meet our team!](#)

In our research, we will:



Rights

Hold creative workshops to understand what children think about their rights and the climate crisis.



Law



Look at examples where children and young people have taken legal action about the climate crisis.



Participation

Talk to children and young people who have been taking other types of climate action.

By the end of the project, we will better understand:

-  How to make legal systems more accessible to children who are standing up for their rights to climate justice;
-  In what ways children's role as climate leaders might be changing the way we understand how children experience their rights.

What is the Young Advisory Team?

The most important part of this project is hearing from children and young people themselves. To make sure our research is designed in a way that will help children and young people to feel comfortable, supported and able to express themselves in ways that work best for them, we are creating a Young Advisory Team of children and young people who can help us to:



Design and test the different activities and materials we will use in the research project.



Come up with ways of telling the story of how the research project develops with children and adults across the world. This might be on social media, through the news, or through schools and organisations...we can't wait to hear the creative ideas the Advisory Team comes up with!

We are inviting children and young people aged 8* to 17 from all over the world to apply to be a Young Advisor for the period June 2024 to June 2025.

* Please note, we know there are lots of amazing children under 8 years old who are standing up for climate justice. There will be future opportunities for younger children to get involved in the Youth Climate Justice project - watch this space!

Please review the **Information Pack for Young Advisors** for more information.






What is the role of a supporting adult?

As this will be a global team of children and young people and coordinated by a global team based predominantly at the University College Cork in Ireland, it is important that every child and young person is supported by a trusted adult at a local or national level.

This could be someone who works with the child or young person through a non-governmental organisation, youth work organisation, club, school or other educational setting. We ask that supporting organisations have their own child protection/safeguarding policies and procedures in place.

As we know many children and young people are taking climate action independently and therefore not affiliated with an organisation, a supporting adult can also be a parent/legal guardian or mentor. In this instance, we will look to connect the Young Advisor and their parent/legal guardian/mentor with a local or national level organisation who can support from a child safeguarding basis.

Whilst the adult team involved in this research project will take every effort to make sure the Young Advisory Team is a positive, inclusive and safe experience for every Young Advisor, the supporting adult is responsible for:

-  Facilitating communications between the Young Advisor and the Youth Climate Justice team, ensuring the Young Advisor is able to participate in activities;
-  Checking-in regularly with the Young Advisor to make sure they are well and managing the project activities;
-  Making sure the Young Advisor has everything they need to participate fully and safely (such as interpretation support, internet access, digital devices);
-  Providing child safeguarding support, in line with University College Cork's child safeguarding statement available [here](#); and
-  Staying in contact with the Youth Climate Justice team as the research project develops.

What commitment is expected?

The Youth Climate Justice project team will communicate with the supporting adults and Young Advisor through email and online calls. We ask that supporting adults are available to support their Young Advisor for approximately 1-2 hours per month with communications and check-ins. This may vary slightly depending on how much support the Young Advisor needs - for example, younger children or children with additional support and/or technology needs may require extra assistance. Please note, we do not expect supporting adults to participate in online calls unless the Young Advisor requires or would like their support.

Youth Climate Justice project team can be contacted if expenses for an in-person local meeting with a Young Advisor is required at any point during the project.

Child Safeguarding

The safety and wellbeing of all Young Advisors involved in the project is the Youth Climate Justice team's utmost priority. Supporting adults must adhere to University College Cork's **safeguarding statement**, as well as those of its own organisation. Before Young Advisors can join the team, supporting adults, on behalf of their organisation, shall be required to sign and apply UCC's safeguarding policy and procedures and the project consent forms.

Application Process & Timeline

Children and young people can express their interest in being a Young Advisor by completing **this questionnaire** by **5th May 2024 at 17:00 GMT (bit.ly/YCJApply)**. Please note, children and young people will be asked to note the name/contact details of their supporting adult.

Below sets out our timeline with regards to the onboarding of Young Advisors.

- **5th May 2024 at 17:00 GMT:** Application deadline. We will write to all Young Advisors within 14 days explaining whether or not they are invited to be part of the team*.
- **From 20th May 2024:** We will hold individual calls with Young Advisors and their parents/guardians and supporting adults, and support them to complete required information and consent forms.
- **Mid-June 2024:** First online call with the Young Advisory Team!

*The selection process for the twelve Young Advisors will be based on making sure the Advisory Team is as inclusive as possible. This means we will look to make sure it is made up of children and young people of different ages from across different parts of the world; those with diverse capacities, additional support or communication needs; those from different social and minority backgrounds; and so that there is a gender balance too.

If you have any questions about the Young Advisory Team, please contact us at: **youthclimatejustice@ucc.ie**.

www.ucc.ie/en/youthclimatejustice/

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