



Yearly Meeting of  
the Religious Society  
of Friends in Britain

July 2016

Dear Area Meeting Clerks,

## Young Quakers Participation Day December 2016

Thank you for your efforts to find young people for Junior Yearly Meeting this year. This correspondence sets out a second opportunity for Area Meetings to nominate a young person to participate in a national Quaker activity.

Meeting for Sufferings in April 2014 agreed to an annual opportunity for young people to participate in considering Yearly Meeting business alongside Meeting for Sufferings. This mailing outlines what to do to enable young people from your area meeting to attend this day. It also outlines information about the day, who the day is for, the role of responsible adult and what is required to book a place for a young person to attend. As noted in Meeting for Sufferings' minute 2014/04/13(b), it is acceptable not to offer this opportunity to young Friends: this is not a formal requirement for Area Meetings.

**About the day:** The aims of the Participation Day are to engage with the experiences and concerns of young Quakers and to consider issues affecting the organisation they are a part of. This day will look at young Friends engagement with their Meeting, including looking at the challenges and the opportunities there are for them as members of a Quaker community.

It takes place on Saturday, 3 December 2016 with arrivals and refreshments from 9:00am and worship alongside Meeting for Sufferings at 10:00am; the day will conclude at 4:30pm. See the attached leaflet for more information.

**No interested young people?** If you are not booking young people onto the day please fill in Part 1 of the form and return this by post, call Thaïs de Oliveira on 020 7663 1013 or email her on [cypadmin@quaker.org.uk](mailto:cypadmin@quaker.org.uk)

**To book young people onto the day** Please read the information overleaf, and the attached booking process, fill in the booking form and return it to Thaïs De Oliveira at Quaker Life, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ. If you would prefer to respond online the form can be accessed at <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/yqpd2016/> The closing date for bookings is Sunday, 20 November, 2016.

**Who the day is for:** The day is for young Quakers who are interested in taking a part in an opportunity that seeks their views on issues of concern to them and also to Quakers in Britain. Area Meetings should only book young people on to the day who have a genuine interest. It is not expected that every Area Meeting will be able to find young people to

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book onto the day. It is preferable not to have a young person attend than to book a young person onto the day who does not understand their role and is disinterested. Each Area Meeting can book:

- two young people onto the day; they should be aged 14 – 18 (born between 1.9.1998 and 31.8.2002).
- two young adults onto the day; they should be aged 18-21 (born between 1.9.1995 and 31.8.1998. These people do not require a responsible adult.

We hope that the Meeting for Sufferings representatives will be able to meet the young people and/or young adults for lunch on the day. The intention is that this will strengthen the relationship between adults and young people from the same Area Meeting.

**Responsible adults:** We hope that Meeting for Sufferings representatives will be willing and able to act as responsible adults on the day for those young people who need it, but recognise that for some this may be too onerous. The level of responsibility required will be different from person to person, depending on the young person's level of independence. For more detail see the attached responsible adult information sheet.

**Cost and bookings:** Britain Yearly Meeting will cover the cost of travel and, where required, accommodation for the young person. If for practical reasons someone other than the Meeting for Sufferings representative accompanies the young person then the Area Meeting will need to meet the travel and any accommodation costs of the alternate accompanier. Bookings should be returned by Sunday 20, November at the latest.

In friendship



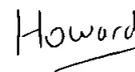
Juliet Prager  
Deputy Recording Clerk

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020 7663 1101



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Youth Participation Officer

[catw@quaker.org.uk](mailto:catw@quaker.org.uk)  
020 7663 1011



Howard Nurden  
Head of Children and Young  
People's Work

[howardn@quaker.org.uk](mailto:howardn@quaker.org.uk)  
020 7663 1012

CC Meeting for Sufferings representatives and alternates

Attached

**A booking process sheet and form:** Please use the process to guide your booking. The completed form should be returned by Sunday, 20 November, 2016 at the latest, it is helpful if it can be returned as soon as possible.

**Responsible adult information:** This is the person accompanying the young person to attend the Participation Day. The notes outline what this role might entail, please pass this guidance to this person so that they are aware of what the expectations are. Please indicate their name and details on the booking form.

**A leaflet about the day:** This should be given to any young people who you are asking to consider participating in the day. If you require further copies of this please phone 0207 663 1013 to request this. If you wish to send it to young people electronically it can be found at <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/yqpd2016/>

# Young Quakers Participation Day

## Booking process



### Alongside Meeting for Sufferings

**Saturday, 3 December** arrivals and refreshments from 9:00am with worship alongside Meeting for Sufferings at 10:00am, the day will conclude at 4:30pm.

#### **Booking deadline Sunday, 20 November.**

1. Communicate with the Area Meeting (AM), Meeting for Sufferings representatives:
  - a) Find out whether your AM Meeting for Sufferings representative or their alternate would be willing or able to support young people to attend the day (aged 14 – 18 (born between 1.9.1998 and 31.8.2002). Young adults (aged 18-21) do not require support to attend but we would hope that the Meeting for Sufferings representative would meet them for lunch on the day.
  - b) If this is not the case you need to decide whether there are any eligible young people who are old enough to travel independently to London or whether to find an individual that is willing to take on this responsibility (if so the Area Meeting needs to agree to meet the cost of their travel and if necessary their accommodation).
2. It is important the young people attending this day are genuinely interested. Although there will be some fun activities during the day, the focus is on young people giving their views on a range of issues. You can identify young people as your Area Meeting considers appropriate, some examples of how you might do this are as follows:
  - You could pass the information to your AM's CYP Advocate or the person who co-ordinates activities for young people in your Area or a Local Meeting.
  - You may have some young people who immediately come to mind and you could directly approach them about this opportunity.
  - You might follow a nominations process.
3. You can book up to two young people (aged 14-18) and two young adults (aged 18-21) onto the day.

If you have more young people who are interested, you could use the following criteria:

  - Confirm that they are the correct age (14-21 years old born between 1.9.95 and 31.8.02).
  - Check whether any of the young people have a particular interest in the topic that is being considered on the day (see the leaflet).
  - Otherwise prioritise those who are the oldest or least likely to be able to take up the opportunity in the future.
4. On receipt of the booking form we will contact the young people and ask them to confirm that they will be attending.
5. We will then write to all young people who have confirmed their places (and if relevant their responsible adults) in November with full details of the day.

# Booking Form

Young Quakers Participation Day

Saturday 3 December 2016

At Friends House, London (alongside Meeting for Sufferings)

**Deadline** Please respond by Sunday 20 November, 2016. No place can be guaranteed after this date.



**Not booking** people onto the Participation Day, please respond by the deadline by:

- completing Part 1 (or communicate the requested information to Thais on 020 7663 1013 or [cypadmin@quaker.org.uk](mailto:cypadmin@quaker.org.uk))

**Booking** young people on to the Participation Day, please respond by:

- using the attached booking process to guide your booking
- You can use the online form at <https://forms.quaker.org.uk/yqpd2016/>  
Alternatively please complete Parts 1 and 2 of this form.

**Part 1:** Name of Area Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person completing the form \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email of above person \_\_\_\_\_  
 We will **not be**     We **will be**                      booking young people on to the Participation Day

## Part 2 a) Young People (see over for Young Adults)

Before completing the form, please confirm that you have the correct addresses and phone numbers. We will use the information you provide to contact the young person (you can book up to two places for young people and two for young adults)

**Young person 1** Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email for young person \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email for parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth (1.9.1998 and 31.8.2002) \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Young person 2** Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email for young person \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact email for parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth (1.9.1998 and 31.8.2002) \_\_\_\_\_  
Local Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Responsible adult** (see Responsible Adults information sheet)

Is this person the Meeting for Sufferings representative or alternate?

**Yes/No**

If **no** please note that the AM needs to cover the associated costs for this person

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2b) Young Adults** (*please note young Adults do not require a responsible adult*)

Before completing the form, please confirm that you have the correct addresses and phone numbers. We will use the information you provide to contact the young adult (you can book up to two places)

**Young Adult 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email for young person \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (1.9.1995 and 31.8.1998) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Young Adult 2**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email for young person \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (1.9.1995 and 31.8.1998) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Enquiries:** telephone on 020 7663 1013 or by email to [cypdadmin@quaker.org.uk](mailto:cypdadmin@quaker.org.uk)

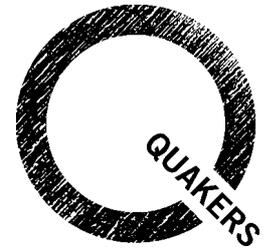
**Please return this form to:** Thais De Oliveira, Quaker Life, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

**Deadline:** Sunday 20 November, 2016 no place can be guaranteed for bookings received after this date.

*Thank you for taking the time to complete this form!*

# Young Quakers Participation days alongside Meeting for Sufferings

## Responsible adult information



*The young people I accompanied said they'd really enjoyed the day and I found them very inspiring, engaged and articulate about everything. They wanted to know what we had been doing and as I went through what had happened at Meeting for Sufferings they asked all sorts of questions. Wonderful! Let's do it again!* Quote from a responsible adult who supported young people on the 2014 participation day.

### **Who takes on this role?**

It is hoped that Area Meeting for Sufferings representatives or their alternates would be willing and able to take on this role. If this is not possible the Area Meeting could ask someone else within the meeting to take on the role. In this case the Area Meeting would need to meet the additional travel costs of the alternate accompanier.

### **Why do we have this role?**

This role is about being responsible for those young people who require some support to enable them attend the day. This does not include being responsible for any participating young adults (aged 18-21). We also hope that it provides opportunity for conversation about Meeting for Sufferings and the Yearly Meeting's work and that over time the link that this creates would strengthen relationships between adults and young people from the same Area Meeting (in light of this we hope that Meeting for Sufferings Representatives would be willing to meet the young people and young adults for lunch).

### **What is required of a responsible adult?**

Every circumstance will be different. Initially, the responsible adult will need to liaise (in advance of the day) with up to two young people and their parents. This would be to establish the parameters of the role, depending on the age and needs of the young people and to make practical arrangements about travel etc.

Older young people (17 or 18 year olds for example) may be able to travel independently and require little if any support to be able to attend the day. Whereas, 14 or 15 year olds may need more help. It may only be necessary to meet young people at a London station and then see them back onto a train. The responsible adult should agree what is needed with the individual young people and their parents.

On the day having lunch together is a valuable opportunity as it creates a space for dialogue between the young people and those serving on Meeting for Sufferings. It is an aspect that was clearly appreciated by the young people who have attended previous days. However if it is not possible for Meeting for Sufferings representatives to take responsibility (for example if they have other lunch time commitments) then members of the team working with young people on the day would be able to undertake responsibility for young people at lunch times.

The expectation is that Meeting for Sufferings representatives only do what they are comfortable to do and communicate this to AMs in good time so that if necessary appropriate alternative arrangements can be made.

### **What are the safeguarding considerations?**

In most cases Meeting for Sufferings representatives would not require a DBS (formally CRB) check. If the young person is travelling together with the Meeting for Sufferings representative in the public domain or being met at a station, it is not usually necessary for the responsible adult to be DBS checked. If the young people were staying overnight with a Meeting for Sufferings representative or travelling with them in a car, then this might be necessary.

As each circumstance is likely to be different it is not possible to generalise. Friends should consult their Area Meeting Safeguarding Coordinator who is advised to seek advice from Churches Child Protection Advisory Service advice line (most Area Meetings are CCPAS members or should have made alternative arrangements for obtaining safeguarding advice).

### **Do we have to do this?**

It is not expected that every Area Meeting will be able to find young people who wish to take up the Participation Day opportunity, or it may not be possible to find an adult to support a young person's attendance. It is not a formal requirement that Area Meetings book young people onto this event.

# Young Quakers Participation

December Day for 14-21 year olds  
Saturday 3 December 2016  
Friends House, London



*I wanted to be and feel part of the decision making process. It is really important that a range and variety of people are involved including the voices of young people.*

*The day made me feel encouraged to be an active member of the Quaker community to which I belong, and that all contributions, whether their giver is five or fifty, are treated with equal respect and consideration.*

Equality is one of our corporate testimonies, in practice, this means trying to include everyone as a fully as possible. The Participation Days are an opportunity to be involved in decisions that affect you and the organisation you are part of. We want to hear about your experiences and concerns as young Quakers as well as ask you about issues that affect this organisation.



*I enjoyed the Young Quakers Participation day and it taught me more about other people's approaches to Quakerism. The day made me think about my perspective.*



This day will look at young Friends engagement with their Meeting, including looking at the challenges and the opportunities there are for them as members of a Quaker Community.

The day is being held alongside Meeting for Sufferings which decides the priorities and sets the direction of the Yearly Meeting. This will offer you the chance to consider items that are on their agenda that are of relevance to young people, as well as to identify any issues that you consider might be relevant to Meeting for Sufferings.

*This day has given me hope that young people care about issues that are interesting and relevant to me.*



We are asking Area Meeting, Meeting for Sufferings representatives to take responsibility for accompanying to the day, those young people who need it.

In addition we hope that as well as a chance to spend the day with people your own age that you will meet up with your Area Meeting Representative for lunch. The intention is that this provides the opportunity for you to find out more about Meeting for Sufferings and Yearly Meeting's work, as well as strengthening relationships between adults and young people from the same Area Meeting.

*The overriding sense that I took from that day was how much young people desired to be involved in such processes. At the close of the day, we were asked to raise our hands if we would like to take part in a similar event again. Every hand went up.*

**Who can come:** Each Area Meeting can book up to two young people and two young adults to attend the day, the cost of travel and, where essential, accommodation will be covered from Britain Yearly Meeting funds. If you are interested in attending the day, speak to your Area Meeting Clerk (or the person who gave you the leaflet) to find out how to book your place.

**Details:** The 2016 CYP Participation Day is on Saturday, December 3 arrivals will be from 9:00am with worship alongside Meeting for Sufferings at 10:00am, the day will conclude at 4:30pm. The day is for young people aged 14 – 18 year (born between 1.9.1998 and 31.8.2002). 18-21 (born between 1.9.1995 and 31.8.1998).

**Booking** The deadline is Sunday, 20 November 2016.

*Being at the Participation Day made me feel a part of Quakerism and Britain Yearly Meeting*

