

All you need to know about Takeover Day

What is Takeover Day?

Takeover Day is an annual day on which museums, galleries, libraries, archives, arts and heritage organisations invite young people in and give them a meaningful role. You can involve one child or one hundred children. It's a day to come up with new ideas and empower them to contribute creatively to your work.

Where do we get the young people from?

They're everywhere!

- Look inside your venue. You are probably already working with young people that could get involved.
- Do school groups visit your organisation? Why not invite them to step into a decision-making role on that day.
- Put up a poster to recruit young people or use social and local media.
- Contact organisations such as schools, youth services, Guides and Scouts (see our fact sheet for a full list of organisations to contact).
- Ask staff and volunteers – many of them will work with young people and may be able to help.

How can Kids in Museums help?

- **Downloadable resources** from our website, including fact sheets, press release templates and case studies.
- We can also send you **free 'We're Taking Over' materials**, including certificates and stickers for the young people taking part as well as posters to put up on the day.
- **Expertise, advice and support** to make your event a huge success. Just email your questions to takeoverday@kidsinmuseums.org.uk and one of the team will get back in touch.
- **Publicity** – Keep in touch about your event and we can tweet about it, send a volunteer to help with your event and use your event as a case study.

Six simple ways to take part in Takeover Day

- 1 Ask the young people themselves what they want to do. They'll have loads of suggestions.
- 2 Do a 'Be a Director for the Day' and appoint a young person to the post. Ask young people to take on a role at the venue including front of house, retail, operations or curators.
- 3 Need to get an event or activity organised? Ask the young people to plan and deliver it.
- 4 Ask for their thoughts and input on your website, activities, events and exhibitions. It's a great way to gather new ideas.
- 5 Get young people to take over your Twitter stream, write a blog or press release and help with your marketing and publicity.
- 6 Need a fresh perspective? Get the young people to look at a tricky issue in your venue.

Children say...

'This once in a lifetime opportunity really boosted my confidence in many things such as being able to stand up in front of lots of people and act, sing, dance, the list goes on forever.'

'The best bit was when we went and redesigned the museum because we could express all of our ideas. It was the best thing I have ever done.'

'On museum Takeover Day I felt excited because it was like I had a real job.'

Museums say...

'The Youth Advisors led public conversations, challenging people's perceptions of what young people and museums do. This is the first time anything like this has happened and their role has been acknowledged by our Visitor Experience team who now have a much better understanding of young people in the museum.'

'Staff in other departments realised how capable the pupils are and their attitudes became more positive.'

'Some of the young people have now taken up places on our teen advisory panel.'