



How to...network with other YAs



By now you will know the other Young Ambassadors and sport leaders in your school. However, you might not know the YAs from the other schools in your area.

Networking is a great way to meet other YAs, make new friends, and to share ideas and experiences.

This guide will tell you how to organise a meeting that will allow you to share ideas and best practice that can be implemented in your school.

1. Speak to your Active Schools Coordinator

Your Active Schools Coordinator (ASC) will know the other ASCs in your area.

Speak to them and see if it would be possible to arrange a meeting with the other YAs in the area to meet and discuss their experiences. Perhaps draft up an email that your ASC can send out to the other ASC inviting them all to come along.

2. Time and location

It's important that you chose a place that is easily accessible for all the people you plan to invite. Your school or a local sports club might be the easiest and best place for this.

We know you all have very busy schedules, but ideally your networking session should take place after school and not too late in the evening, so everyone can attend.

How long would you like your session to last? We would suggest not making any longer than than 2 hours. Once you have a start and end time, notify attendees so that they can book their transportation.

3. Discussion points and follow up

It's good to prepare an agenda for your session. Even if it's not very detailed, having a few talking points to fall back on is always a safe option. Think in advance what you'd like to take away from the discussion and ask the other attendees if there is anything they would like to discuss too. That way everyone's views are considered, and you have a clear plan of what to talk about. You can see an example of a simple agenda on the next page.

When holding the meeting, make sure to take notes so that you can follow up on any ideas that might have been discussed and any actions you need to do when back at your school.

4. Keep the communication going

Make sure that after the session everyone knows how they can reach one another. It might be worth setting up a Facebook or WhatsApp group, so that anyone can ask each other questions.



Appendix 1

Networking session agenda



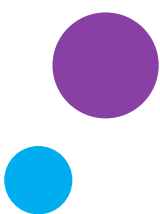
Date: 18/04/2019

Time: 16:00-18:00

Location: YA Academy

Organised by: You!

Order of the session:

1. Introductions - This is a good starting point for the first session you hold as the chances are that not everyone will have met before. You can do that through an ice-breaker game or just by going around and saying an interesting fact about yourselves.
 2. Achievements so far – You can talk about all the exciting activities you have done in your school and highlight your biggest achievement as a YA to date. Talk about what things have worked and what things haven't. Don't be afraid to talk about some of the things that haven't worked as not everything you do will be a success.
 3. Share ideas – Share some of the ideas you implemented in your school and see if anyone else has done similar. Also see if anyone is already carrying out an idea that you would like to do in your school, as they might be able to give you some advice.
 4. Things we could do together – This could include a Facebook group to share ideas, organising activities with local clubs, fundraising or local school sport competitions.
 5. Things to follow up on – Make a list of ideas you have discussed and be sure to follow up on them at the next meeting to see how they have progressed.
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