

Our Shoes training programme



Purpose

Our Shoes programme overview

Award-winning training co-developed with young people facing diverse challenges to strengthen youth voice and participation.

Partnership and empowerment

Partnership between Surrey County Council and young people to promote respect, inclusion, and youth empowerment.

Training outcomes

Training develops empathy, reduces unconscious bias, and fosters environments where young people feel safe and valued.



Why it matters

Focus on well-being

Understanding young people's well-being is crucial for shaping their positive future and healthy development.

Influence of professionals

How professionals treat young people shapes their worldview, responses, and long-term life outcomes.

Voicing young people

Giving young people a voice is essential to acknowledge their experiences and challenges.

Inclusive environments

Creating inclusive spaces ensures young people's feelings and perspectives are respected and valued.



What makes Our Shoes training different

Genuine partnership

'Our Shoes' is a true partnership with young people, co-created and delivered authentically reflecting real-life experiences.

Skill building opportunities

The programme offers meaningful employment and skill development for young trainers, fostering confidence and growth.

Practical learning

'Our Shoes' emphasises practical, experience-based learning that transforms perspectives and lives beyond theoretical approaches.



Six powerful courses

Each course is designed and delivered in collaboration with young people who have lived experience, ensuring authenticity and relevance.



Proven impact

Participant completion

352 professionals from various sectors have completed Our Shoes training since January 2025, showing strong engagement.

Positive feedback ratings

Training scored highly with an average 4.8 to 4.9 out of 5 in impact, trainer knowledge, and recommendation likelihood.

Impactful participant experiences

Participants describe the training as 'insightful' and 'thought-provoking', highlighting dynamic activities that simulate young people's experiences.



Benefits for young people

Building trust and confidence

Inclusive practices help professionals build trust and confidence with young people, essential for positive development.

Respectful communication

Promoting respectful communication ensures young voices are valued and heard during decision-making processes.

Empowering youth voices

Encouraging young people's participation in decisions fosters their confidence and improves outcomes.

Adapting approaches to thrive

Professionals adapt methods to meet young people's needs, creating environments where they can thrive.



Delivery and flexibility

Flexible delivery methods

Training is available face-to-face or virtually via Teams, accommodating diverse participant needs.

Pricing options

Individual delegate bookings or sessions for groups.

Group and custom packages

Group sessions for up to 20 delegates. Custom packages for larger groups or whole teams/organisations are offered at discounted rates.



Contact information

Contact Emma Storer (emma.storer@surreycc.gov.uk) or our team (ourshoes@surreycc.gov.uk) to book sessions or discuss tailored options.

