



The Joined Up Institute

Programme Information Pack



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Welcome



Thank you for considering being part of the Joined Up Institute, which aims to lead positive change in the systems that support young people.

We think it is the start of something special, and hope that you will too.

Why the Joined Up Institute?

- We want empathetic, high quality, connected and preventative support to be available to all young people.
- Every sector has relatable and skilled professionals with a drive to improve young people's lives.
- By breaking out of bubbles, sharing what we know, finding common standards and working better together, we can move from firefighting when things go wrong to building hopeful systems that support every young person to thrive.

What is the JUI?



The professionals who support young people know that we need to work together if we are going to solve the complex challenges that young people face.

There are already excellent examples of collaboration in action (initiatives such as Young Future Hubs, Integrated Care Boards, Violence Reduction Networks, development of the National Youth Strategy).

Despite this, there are still barriers which prevent professionals collaborating to support young people:

- Systems are stretched addressing changing and increasing needs
- Lack of opportunities for professionals to learn from one another about what works across sectors, and
- not enough investment in continuing professional development (CPD).

The Joined Up Institute will address these challenges. It is a **new professional development programme for emerging leaders** in Leicester.

Joining the programme is both:

- an opportunity to **devote time to your own personal leadership development**; and
- a chance to collaborate with others to **improve young people's futures**.

The programme also aims to strengthen how the different sectors that support young people work together. It involves a mix of in-person events and online learning, enabling you to **connect with and learn from others**.

It will empower you to **lead change in the future**, in collaboration with people from different organisations and areas of work.

Development of the JUI

UK Youth is the UK's leading youth work charity with a vision that all young people are equipped to thrive and empowered to contribute at every stage of their lives.

Everything we do at UK Youth is in order to ensure our society understands, champions and delivers for all young people.

The Joined Up Institute follows the success of the Joined Up Summit, a collaborative one-day event that took place in November 2024.

The Summit saw over 500 young people join senior leaders from youth-facing sectors, along with funders, business leaders, and policymakers.

Since then, UK Youth have been co-designing the programme together with young people and partners from youth-facing sectors in Leicester.





"UK Youth's Joined Up Institute is such a welcome and exciting opportunity and we are thrilled that the pilot programme is taking place in Leicester.

Investing in the learning and development of cross-sector leaders who are passionate about supporting young people is a vital enabler to driving high-quality services. The engagement and energy of local leaders in our city highlights how this innovative initiative is set to make a difference to both them and our young people."

Grace Strong, Director, Violence Reduction Network,
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

Why should I join?

Benefits to you

Enhance your leadership skills, expand your professional network, and gain insights from others working in different contexts.

What this looks like:

- Access to exclusive learning sessions and resources.
- Opportunities to engage with a diverse network of professionals.
- Developing your understanding of the bigger picture context and how to influence decision-makers and processes.
- Gaining recognition as a leader in cross sector collaboration.

Benefits to your organisation

Taking part in the programme will enable you to more confidently make change in the future – in your role, in your organisation, and in the services and context within which you work.

What this looks like:

- Contacts with whom you can collaborate to build partnerships across sectors.
- Improved understanding of how including wider perspectives can improve young people's outcomes.
- Contribution to a joined up vision for further improving services for young people in Leicester.

Benefits to young people

By building trust, sharing resources, and deepening your learning, you will play a vital role in building a better future for young people – in Leicester, and across the UK.

What this looks like:

- A professional network of people taking a collaborative, cross sector approach to services and support for young people in Leicester.
- Learnings from the programme will be shared with people and organisations across the UK.
- Contributing to lasting change in how we improve young people's futures.

What's involved?



By joining the programme, you commit to 6 days of time: 3 for in-person events and the equivalent of 3 for online learning opportunities that will support your future leadership and change making ambitions.

Event 1: **Deepening community and relationships**

with a focus on developing mutual understanding, trust and relationship building between different sectors and with young people.

Event 2: **Knowing what works and what could work**

with a focus on sharing and evaluating evidence of what works across different sectors, and young people's lived experiences.

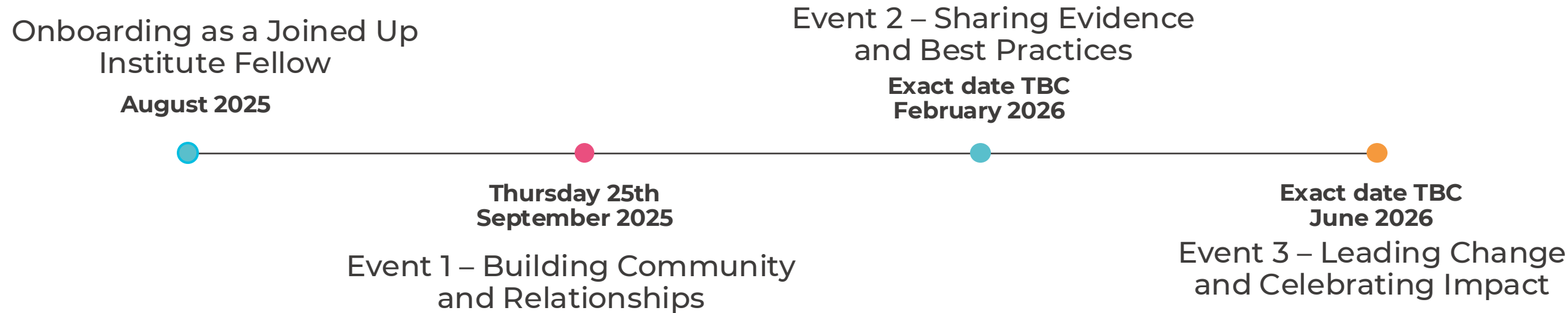
Event 3: **Learning to lead change in new contexts**

with a focus on sharing what is working in Leicester at the moment, and exploring highlights from each community of practice.

Ongoing: **Online training and development**

UKY supports people with ongoing communities of practice events, online training and learning opportunities.

What does the year look like?



The three in-person events will be supported by online learning, and community of practice events.

Applications close on 16 July 2025

Who is it for?



The JUI is a professional development programme aimed at **supporting and connecting the change makers of tomorrow**. At its core, we want to ensure that all participants are champions of: racial equity, preventative and systemic practice, lived experience and ambitious leadership.

To be eligible to apply, you must be 18+ and working or volunteering in a youth facing sector in Leicester City.

We will be prioritising applications from emerging leaders. There are various ways this could be interpreted; for instance:

- You may be in a position (a paid role or in a voluntary capacity) where you can influence the practice of others and help shape positive outcomes for young people (e.g. you may be a middle leader within your organisation, a well-networked practitioner, or a member of board or advisory group)
- You would like to take an active leadership role in influencing the hearts and minds of other people in the sector, and a wider set of decision makers
- You have a vision of how you want your role to evolve and shape youth futures

These are just examples, so if you don't feel like you reflect the above criteria, we would still **encourage you to apply** and tell us why you would like to join the programme.

Our commitment to inclusion



In order to reflect the diverse community of Leicester and achieve inclusive systems change we are taking a number of steps.

Our approach to reviewing applications has been designed to prioritise people's potential above credentials.

We also understand some people have had less opportunity due to systemic barriers.

We are particularly encouraging applications from:

- Young people aged 18-25
- Applicants from Global Majority backgrounds
- People who are disabled or have a long term health condition

Applications will be reviewed anonymously by a diverse panel of individuals across organisations and roles based on UK Youth's commitment to inclusion and in consultation with TRIUMPH, our racial equity partners.

Who else will be involved?

The programme will support 300 emerging leaders from diverse backgrounds, with different professional and personal experiences, who are all passionate about taking a collaborative approach to improving young people's lives in the future.

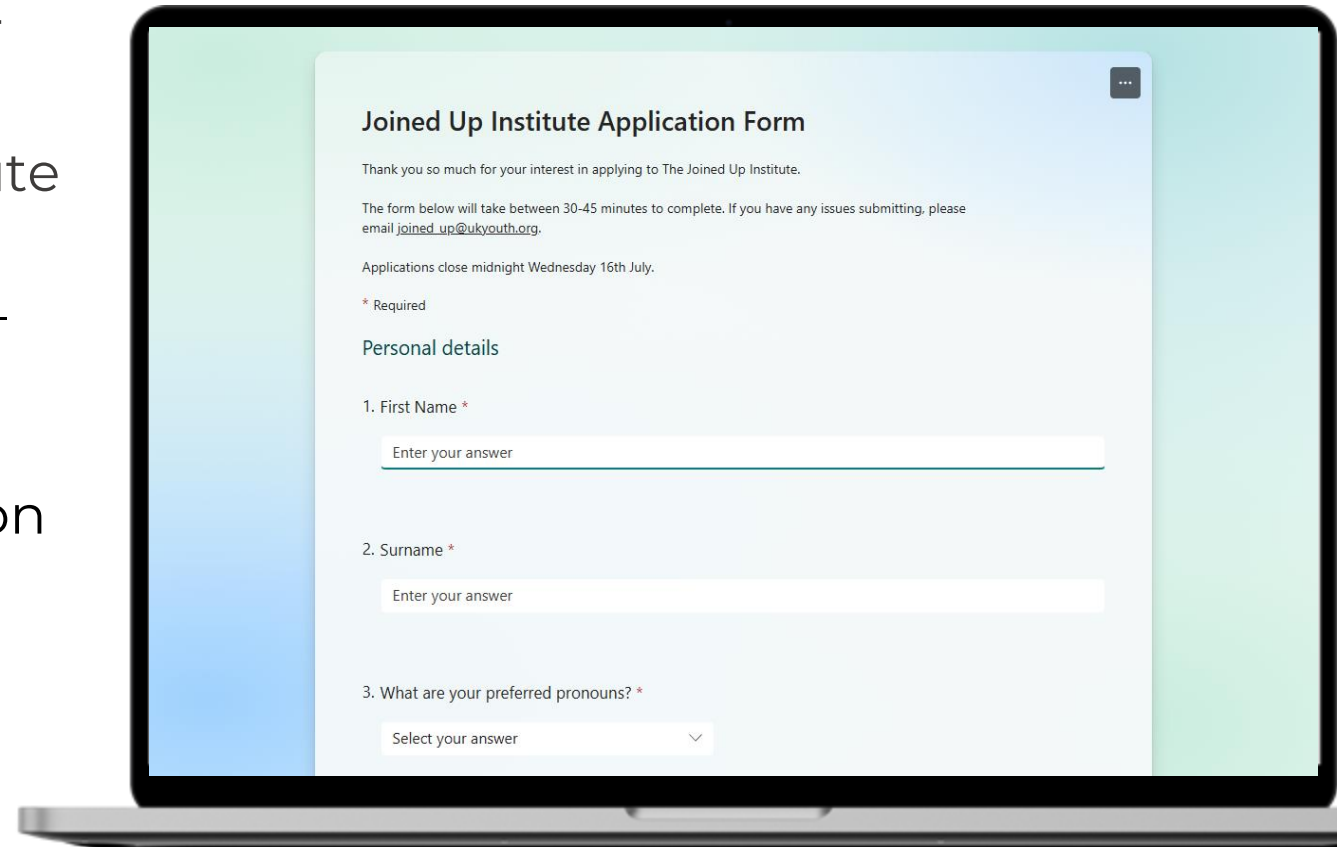
If you work in one of these areas and have a passion for making positive change in the future, then the Joined Up Institute could be for you!

We recognise this isn't an exhaustive list so encourage you to still apply if you sit outside of these sectors or across multiple sectors.



How do I apply?

1. Visit the Joined Up Institute [website](#) for application details
2. Consider attending one of our 30-minute [online webinars](#) every Thursday
3. Complete the online application form – this should take you 30-45 minutes – see next page for more details
4. Submit your application by **midnight** on **Wednesday 16 July 2025**
5. Selected applicants will be notified on **w/c Monday 4 August 2025**

A laptop screen displaying the 'Joined Up Institute Application Form'. The form has a light blue header with the title 'Joined Up Institute Application Form'. Below the title, there is a thank you message and instructions. The form is divided into sections, with 'Personal details' being the first. It contains three numbered questions: '1. First Name *', '2. Surname *', and '3. What are your preferred pronouns? *'. Each question has a corresponding input field. The first two are text boxes with placeholder text 'Enter your answer'. The third is a dropdown menu with the placeholder text 'Select your answer'. A small '...' icon is visible in the top right corner of the form area.

Joined Up Institute Application Form

Thank you so much for your interest in applying to The Joined Up Institute.

The form below will take between 30-45 minutes to complete. If you have any issues submitting, please email joined_up@ukyouth.org.

Applications close midnight Wednesday 16th July.

* Required

Personal details

1. First Name *

Enter your answer

2. Surname *

Enter your answer

3. What are your preferred pronouns? *

Select your answer

What does the application involve?



There are 4 sections in the application and it should take 30-45 minutes to complete:

1. Personal details – Here we ask for standard information including your contact details, current employer/organisation you volunteer for, sector and role details.
2. Application Questions – So that we can understand why you want to join the programme, we ask you two questions. You can either write an answer in approx. 250 words per question (1250 characters) or email in a 2- minute video or audio file for each question to joined_up@ukyouth.org. Please be sure to include your full name in the file title.
3. Inclusion Section – We ask for some details that might feel irrelevant or intrusive but we want to make sure the JUI is accessible to everyone and we can only do this by gathering this information. You are welcome to select 'prefer not to say' for all questions.
4. Consent – Confirm you are happy to be contacted as part of The Joined Up Institute and your data to be stored.

What are we looking for?



We are using The Big Change's four dimensions of leadership as the framework for the assessment criteria. You can find out more information [here](#).

Purpose

Looks at personal/lived experience, values and motivation.

Growth

Looks at openness to learning, self-awareness and desire for development.

Agency

Looks at vision, commitment to change and willingness to challenge the status quo.

Relationships

Looks at collaboration, network-building and system leadership mindset.

FAQs

Can anyone take part?

To be a Joined Up Institute Fellow, you need to be over the age of 18, working in Leicester and be able to commit to 6 days total of your time during working hours across the September '25 to June '26 period.

Is there a cost to taking part?

No. The Joined Up Institute is free to take part in for individuals. However, we do require you to invest time – which is why we recommend that you seek permission from your line manager before applying.

Do I need to attend in person?

Yes, there are 3 in person workshop days, based in central Leicester, that you need to be able to attend and there will be online learning to complete between these events.

Do I need to be nominated?

No. Applications are made directly by people interested in joining the programme. However, we do recommend that you discuss the opportunity with your line manager first and seek their approval first.

How much time will it take?

The programme will require around 6 days of your time across the September to June period. 3 days for the in-person events and 3 days for the online learning, networking and communities of practice.

There may be opportunities for deeper levels of engagement as the programme progresses.

What if I don't work in Leicester?

Then you can sign up to be part of our [mailing list](#) to stay up to date with the latest sector news, hear about what works and find out where the Joined Up Institute will be next!

What's the deadline?

Applications close on 16 July '25

What about accessibility?

During the application process you will be able to let us know if you require reasonable adjustments to enable you to join the programme.

We will also take account of key religious festivals (i.e. offering flexibility during Ramadan).

I have other questions...

That's great, please reach out to joined_up@ukyouth.org with your query and we will get back to you as soon as possible.



UK YOUTH

Charity number: 1110590 www.ukyouth.org

UK Youth London Office Fivefields,
8-10 Grosvenor Gardens,
London,
SW1W 0DH
020 3137 3810

Avon Tyrrell Outdoor Centre
Braggers Lane,
Bransgore, Hampshire,
BH23 8EE
01425 672 347