



Election Pack

What is Bright Minds Big Futures

Bright Minds Big Futures (BMBF) is a nationally award-winning youth-led movement, working together with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council to make the Borough a great place grow up.

Open to any young person aged 11-19 or up to 25 with Special Educational Needs, it gives you the chance to make new friends, increase confidence and be involved in making a real difference to the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees.

Members don't just get the opportunity to get involved in volunteering, fundraising and campaigning - you can also use BMBF activity to support awards like the Duke of Edinburgh by counting their volunteer hours.

By joining BMBF, you will be given amazing opportunities including organising and delivering live music events, managing social media platforms, corresponding at Council events, developing campaigns and creating fundraising activities to name a few. BMBF is also active in making Stockton-on-Tees a more environmentally-friendly place, and we have many green projects like helping local businesses recycle and looking after our own allotments.

Role of BMBF members

As a BMBF member you will be added to SLACK, our online communications app! This is where you can meet other members, find out what opportunities are coming up and share your ideas on projects or initiatives.

You can invest as much or as little time as you want, and it's entirely your choice which events, activities or campaigns you want to be involved in. Like music but not into gardening? Choose to get involved with our live music event Secret Sound and skip looking after our allotments.

We hold virtual and in person meetings and can support you with transport and refreshment costs – plus when you join you'll receive a BMBF hoody and t-shirt.

We encourage all members to sign up to SLACK and also join Youth Viewpoint, the Council's online survey for young people, so you can have your say on everything going on.

To join, you just need to complete the 'Join the movement' online form available at https://consultation.stockton.gov.uk/public/hrlc/ce/bmbf_join_the_movement

Role of BMBF Heads

BMBF is managed by an elected panel of young people known as The Big Committee. The Big Committee is made up of the following areas, each of which have an elected BMBF Head:

- Communications and Engagement
- Community Safety
- Health and Wellbeing
- Environment and Green Spaces
- Special Educational Needs
- Equality and Diversity
- Business, Regeneration and Transport
- Arts, Leisure and Culture
- Children and Young People Services

Any BMBF member can put themselves forward to become a Head of Department, where they are then voted for in an election held by other BMBF members. You don't have to have been a member for a long time to apply to be a head – any member can put themselves forwards.

Heads of Department work with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, local charities and voluntary organisation, along with other members of BMBF, to develop key objectives and priorities. Heads will work towards these objectives throughout the year by developing projects, initiatives, and campaigns.

Heads are the main point of contact for any projects or initiatives that fall under their remit and will be asked to write an article for Stockton-on-Tees News to give their perspective on their BMBF aims.

Applying to be a Head of Department is another great way for you to increase confidence, learn leadership skills and become an active part of change in the Borough!

If you would like to apply to become a member of BMBF just fill in the online form at https://consultation.stockton.gov.uk/public/hrlc/ce/bmbf_join_the_movement or for more information visit www.stockton.gov.uk/BMBF

After joining, if you would like to apply for a Head of Department position please complete the form on the next page.

- Please note you may apply for more than one position.
- Please state if you would like to run as Chair along with your Head position. The Chair represents BMBF and the voice of young people locally, regionally and nationally at British Youth Council events.
- Please state if you can make the elections in person or via Zoom on your application form.

BMBF Head of Department Application Form

Name:

Email Address:

Position Applying for:

Would you like to be considered for Chair? Y / N

Can you attend elections in person? Y / N

Brief description about you (you can include hobbies, interests, clubs your involved in etc)

Why do you think you should be elected?

Name 3 things you would like to achieve if elected

1:

2:

3:

Describe yourself in 3 words

1:

2:

3: