**Young Leaders Programme
Application form and guidance**

 **Application deadline:**Please return your application **by Monday 11th December 2023**
Email your application to olivia.smith@potentialplusuk.org

**Applications in other formats:**
We know that some people have difficulty filling in written forms, or just don’t like them. So, if you want to record your answers on video or audio recording that is fine. Just send in your recording to Olivia. If your file is too large to send on email, WeTransfer <https://wetransfer.com/> offers free file sharing up to 2GB file size. We would prefer MP3, MP4, WAV or AAC files for audio and MP4 or WMV for video files.

If you are having difficulty with your application, don’t let that put you off. Tell Olivia you are interested in the programme but have got stuck with the application and we will see what we can do to help.

**Who can apply:**

* You need to be a young person with high learning potential. You don’t have to have an assessment that proves you have high learning potential and your family doesn’t have to be members of Potential Plus UK.
* The programme is aimed at 13-19 year olds. We know young people with high learning potential don’t fit neatly into age restrictions. So, if this programme sounds exciting but you are a little outside the age range, contact Olivia and she will help you to work out whether to apply.
* We know that some young people with high learning potential are neurodivergent or Disabled people. We will be working with you to make sure that this programme is accessible, welcoming, and comfortable for any young person with high learning potential who wants to take part.

**Who we are looking for:**

We aim to recruit around twelve young people.

We are looking for bright young people who are enthusiastic about making things better for themselves and other young people with high learning potential and who would like to develop skills and confidence in leading change.

You don’t have to have any previous experience in leading change.

**What will happen after you apply:**
Staff from Potential Plus UK and Alex Hendra, who is the programme facilitator, will go through all the applications and think about who is likely to get the most out of the programme.

If there are lots of applications and it is hard to decide, we might have an informal meeting with you online to ask a few more questions about what you would like to get out of the programme. If you feel stressed about meetings like this, please tell us beforehand and we can think with you about how to make the experience easier.

We will make final decisions and tell you whether you have been offered a place on the programme by the end of December 2023.

**What to expect from the programme:**

The programme lasts for 6 months, from January to June 2024.

Make sure that you have read the information leaflet about the programme. This tells you what will be happening on the programme.

People who are offered a place will be given more detailed information and final dates and venues for sessions by the end of December. You will see that we are asking you some questions in the application about best meeting times and places, so we can make the programme work well for people – so we aren’t able to give you those details just yet.

 **Young Leaders Programme Application Form**

|  |
| --- |
| **Name and contact details:****Name:****Address:****Email address:****Telephone number:****Date of birth:** |
| **Note: If you are under 18 your parent or main carer needs to fill in some contact details and questions at the end of the form** |
| **1. What problems and barriers do you think young people with high learning potential experience in education or in the community - what do you think needs to improve for young people with high learning potential and why?**  |
| **We think young people with high learning potential should get a chance to lead change themselves - we think having your own real experience of issues makes you the best people to design solutions.**  |
| **2. What positive changes would *you* like to make happen for yourself and other young people with high learning potential? Why do you think this is important?** |
| **3. What excites or interests you about leading change and finding solutions yourself?** |
| **4. What worries you about leading change and finding solutions yourself - or what do you think might get in your way?** |
| **5. Have you ever tried to take up opportunities for decision making, leadership or action on something you were passionate about in the past? Tell us what you tried and how you felt about it (don’t worry if it wasn’t successful…we are just interested in your experiences).** |
| **6. What skills or confidence do you hope to develop within this leadership programme?** |
| **7. Do you have any access needs we should know about (for example do you get very anxious in new settings, do you get bored and distracted easily, do you need time to process information)? Tell us anything that will help us to make sessions work well for you.****7. cont.** |
| **Questions about dates and venues (please talk to your parent/main carer when you are filling this in)** |
| **There will be 4 full days of initial training days in January -February 2024, at weekends. Please indicate which dates you could do (we will pick 4 dates from these):**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sat 20 Jan** | **Sun 21 Jan** | **Sat 27 Jan** | **Sun 28 Jan** | **Sat 3 Feb** |
| **Sun 4 Feb** | **Sun 11 Feb** | **Sat 17 Feb** | **Sun 18 Feb** | **Sun 25 Feb** |

**We have not yet decided on a location to meet but we know that these are possibilities. Please indicate which of these cities you might be able to travel to:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **London** | **Oxford** | **Peterborough** | **Milton Keynes** |

**Note: We are able to support with costs of travel and accommodation if you receive free school meals or equivalent benefits.****There will be two more face-to-face sessions in June 2024. We will organise dates and venues later once we are clearer what works for everyone.** |
| **There will be fortnightly online sessions (2 hours) from March to June 2024. Please indicate when you would prefer these to happen:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sat am** | **Sat pm** | **Sun am** | **Sun pm** |
| **Mon after 5pm** | **Tues after 5pm** | **Weds after 5pm** |

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| **If you are under 18 you need to ask your parent or main carer to fill in this section and send it with the rest of your form:** |
| **Name:****Relationship to the young person applying:****Email address:****Telephone number:** **I confirm that I have read the programme information leaflet and the application guidance and I agree to the young person taking part in the programme** Yes No **I confirm that I have read the session dates and venue questions on page 5 and can ensure that the young person could attend at these times and places** Yes No |
| **Does the young person have any support or access needs we should know about that they have not already told us about in question 7?** |

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