

Youth Researcher Engagement Guidelines

External Booking Process

Thank you for considering the engagement of an Explore Youth Researcher. We have created this guideline to provide information and clarity around how to engage an Explore Youth Researcher through CMY.

Explore Youth Researchers

Known as *Youth Researchers*, Explore members have undergone training to develop facilitation, research and co-design skills and knowledge, and have been introduced to a range of tools that promote youth participation in research, consultation and evaluation.

Youth Researchers draw upon this training, as well as their lived experience to engage directly in any stage of the research process, including:

- ❦ Workshopping themes, topics or scope of research.
- ❦ Design, co-design or consultation on research methods.
- ❦ Facilitation or co-facilitation of focus groups and interviews, dissemination of surveys and participant recruitment and engagement.
- ❦ Analysing data, reviewing research tools, translating findings.
- ❦ Program Evaluation.

In what ways can you engage a Youth Researcher in your projects?

As co-researchers/advisors

The Youth Researchers draw on their training and lived experience as young people, students and professionals to inform direction of your research, ensuring the methods being used and the questions being asked are relevant and responsive to the research co-hort.

They use their youth participation expertise to ensure that other young people are meaningfully involved in research to strengthen the depth and quality of the research involving them.

As facilitators

The youth researchers are experienced facilitators who talk to young people as peers – and help minimise power difference between researcher and participant. . They facilitate research that belongs to young people as much as academics, ensuring young people remain actively engaged throughout the research process.

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The Youth Researchers use their knowledge and position as young community members to conduct interviews and focus groups that are culturally and age appropriate.

As data analysts

The Youth Researchers bring a diversity in perspective and experience that will add nuance and insight into data analysis, and help communicate research back to young people and those from CALD backgrounds in a meaningful and relevant way.

Questions to ask before engaging a youth researcher

- ❦ What support do you have in place to support a Youth Researcher? Do you have a direct contact/supervisor for the Youth Researcher?
- ❦ Do you require the Youth Researcher to have particular prior knowledge or skillset to success in the project?
- ❦ At what stage of the research process you are engaging a Youth Researcher? How will this affect the youth researcher in being informed of all relevant information needed?
- ❦ Do you have a budget set aside to reimburse the Youth Researchers? This budget should differ depending on the length of engagement of the Youth Researcher. See our [Youth Researcher Reimbursement Guideline](#) for more information.
- ❦ Do you have a project brief that the Youth Researchers can look at before confirming their involvement in your project?

What can you expect from CMY?

CMY will provide ongoing support to the Explore Youth Researchers throughout their engagement with you. This includes providing a key support person who will be available for the Youth Researcher when needed.

The Youth Researchers will also attend monthly meetings with CMY and other Explore youth researchers, a space designed for the Youth Researchers to continue their learning and apply content learning through different research projects they are involved in.

Booking form

If you are interested in engaging an Explore Youth Researcher, we would love for you to complete the booking form on our website. Your request will be sent through to the Explore Senior Project Officer, who will get in touch to discuss your request further.