



# Did You Hear Me?

Michail, S., Drake, G., Ojinnaka-Psillakis, A., Hinchcliffe, T., Clarke, M., & Hughes, T. (2024). Did you hear me. Children and young people's experiences of participation in community services. Western Sydney University. <https://doi.org/10.26183/2b2y-gv42>

- 1** Children/young people and services do not think about participation and how it happens in the same way.  
**Action:** Staff should talk to young people about the way they want to participate and help young people decide what activity is best for them.
- 2** Activities set up by services for young people are not always designed with young people.  
**Action:** All services should make sure the way they run their service allows them to set up the activities that young people say they want to be part of, to have a say.
- 3** Relationships with young people are important because they can change the way participation happens.  
**Action:** Organisations and staff should do as much as they can to build relationships with young people.

## Young People Say...

Personal relationships are important for participation.

Services meet the needs that adults see are important not what young people say is important.

When young people say what they want nothing happens, there is no action or change.

## Staff Say...

We talk to young people and they attend meetings with us so we can do the tasks we have to do.

We ask groups of young people to come together to tell us their views.

We hang out with young people and spend time with them to build relationships.