

Building Capacity for Youth Participation in North Belfast

FIVE NATIONS NETWORK



PROJECT AIMS: This curriculum based project aims to

- engage young people with the principles of democracy and participation;
- research young people's experience of (and perspectives on) participation in their school and community;
- disseminate findings from the research to local schools and local political representatives.

ACTIONS:

- **Term 1** - developing and delivering a unit of work on democracy and participation
- **Term 2** - visit to the NI Assembly at Stormont for workshops and meeting with local MLA; working with the Centre for Children's Rights Queen's University Belfast to develop a survey of peers across schools in North Belfast
- **Term 3** – advocacy workshop; dissemination of findings from survey to local schools; lobbying local representatives

Year 10 students pictured with local MLA Gerry Kelly at Stormont

This project has given our girls a fantastic opportunity to learn more about participation in their community and to engage with their peers across North Belfast (Principal, Mercy College)

IMPACT: It is hoped that the outcomes from this project will be:

- increased awareness amongst young people in North Belfast of opportunities to participate in their school and local community;
- contribution to relationship building between schools in North Belfast;
- raising local political representatives' awareness of the needs of young people in the community

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