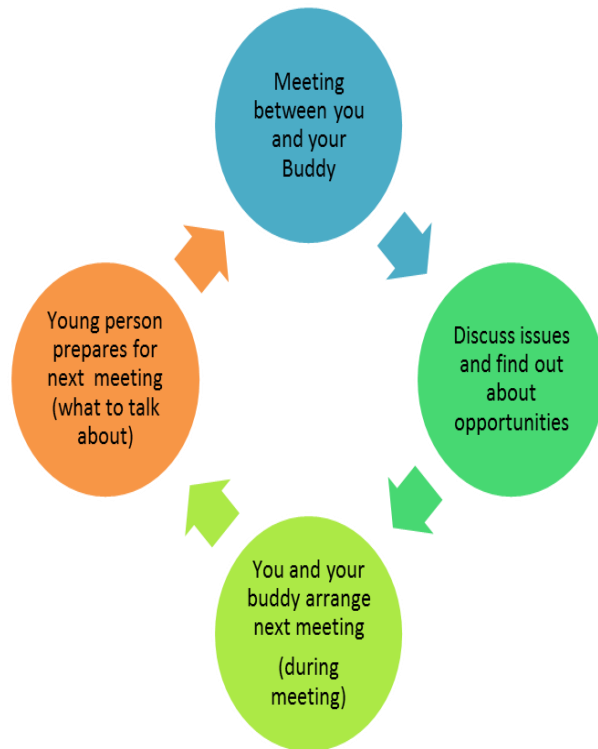


The process of meeting your Buddy

Based on the knowledge which your Family Outreach Worker (FOW) has of your hobbies, interests and needs, you will be matched with the Buddy best placed to support your needs. NYY will arrange for you to meet your buddy; your FOW will also be present. This means you will be introduced to each other by your existing worker who will help lead the meeting. After that initial meeting, the process will run as follows



We would aim for you to meet regularly with your buddy for up to 6 months. However, this is your project so you will have the opportunity to speak with your buddy about the support which you are getting. If you need to be referred back to your Family Outreach Worker then this can happen. The aim of the Buddy Network is to help you move towards greater independence and make the right decisions for yourself.

The aim of the Buddy Network is to help you to help yourself



North Yorkshire Youth is a charity which supports voluntary youth provision across North Yorkshire.

For more information please look at www.nyy.org.uk

If you have any further questions about the Buddy Network then please speak with Clare Yates on 01845 522145



Buddy Network



Information for young people aged 14-19

A brief guide for young people about the Buddy Network.

What is the Buddy Network all about?

This leaflet is to let you know about the Buddy Network and how it works. It will help you to be clear about what you and your “Buddy” can expect from each other.

This is an exciting project which is designed to help and support young people in North Yorkshire. After finishing working with your Family Outreach Worker you can meet and get support from another worker (Buddy) in a different way.

You can meet with your ‘Buddy’ regularly to chat about general things and maybe get some help and advice with any issues which you may have. You can meet regularly at a venue in your community for about an hour and chat over a coffee, tea or juice etc. They may be able to tell you about opportunities and events which could be of interest to you or just listen to what is going on in your life at that time.

What is a Buddy?

- A trained volunteer who is keen to do something positive for young people.
- An adult who understands many of the issues which can affect young people.
- A community member who is keen to have a positive impact on young people within it.
- A safe adult
- Someone who is confidential unless you share information that compromises your wellbeing
- Someone who is keen to promote your independence and involvement in positive activities.

What a Buddy is not

The support which you receive from a buddy is not the same as you have previously had. It does, however, follow on from previous work and is designed to give you continued support in a “light touch” way and is designed as a “light-touch” support.

- **A free project designed to cut costs** Whilst your buddy is a volunteer, they will have been trained and as such their time and experience is valuable... as is yours.
- **A 24 hour helpline** You and your buddy will arrange to meet at an agreed time in a public place that is convenient to you both. They are not there to support you outside of these agreed times.

After you have decided that you wish to have a “Buddy”, it is really important that you commit to it fully and communicate with your buddy.