|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1.2** | **Let them participate**  What is participation? | |
| **Young person:** | |  |
| **Practitioner:** | |  |
| **Date:** | |  |

By law, **young people have a right to express their opinions** on decisions that affect them, and to have those opinions taken into account.

They also **have the right to contribute to an effective response to their own behaviour**, and it is our responsibility (as adults) to **actively seek and elicit the views of young people. This is ‘participation’**.

However, when we talk about “participation” it is often used simply to just mean being listened to or consulted, and not higher-level involvement where **young people’s input makes a difference and they are involved in the decision-making.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Always keep in mind the diagram below, ensuring that as much engagement as possible with young people fits in the ‘participation’ category.** |

