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YAS Youth Action Squad

How to set goals and guidelines

Every squad will be different but it's a good idea to set some guidelines for how your squad will run.

"There has to be at least some structure in anything" - Toby, Christchurch, YAS ambassador

Some things to think about:

When, where and how often will you meet?
Meeting at the same place and time, on a regular day, can help everyone remember to turn up. If you set up a schedule, members can plan around meetings or let the squad know if they have a clash. You also may decide to meet more often when you're planning a big event or less often at exam time.

Will you have assigned roles?
If your squad is small you may not need to assign individual roles but, if you have a big squad, or you're planning a big event, you may want to elect people to some key roles.

"Rules around things like taking roles, agenda management, and decision-making processes will ensure the group meetings stay on track and that important topics are addressed in a positive and productive way." - Martina, Christchurch, YAS ambassador

How often will you organise an activity or event?
Netsafe recommends squads have at least one event a term. This could be something small like designing a poster or running a form-time quiz, or it could be something big like organising a discussion group or hosting an assembly. It's a good idea to talk about what other responsibilities squad members have at different times of the year so no one feels stressed out or over committed.

What are your main goals?
Consider setting some short-term goals for each term and some long-term goals for the year. This way you can check in and see if you're achieving what you set out to do. Discussing goals is also a way of finding out what different members see as important and means everyone gets heard.