

# Young People Takeover Connexions Berkshire for a Day

On Friday 23rd November, Connexions Berkshire joined with over 500 hundred companies across the country, including Manchester United and BSkyB, to take part in the 11 MILLION Takeover Day.

Lead by the Children's Commissioner, Professor Sir Albert Aynsley-Green, the day was an opportunity for young people to make decisions, and to shape the future work of organisations and individuals

Connexions Berkshire got involved by holding a consultation day with young people from the Bracknell area. After an initial ice breaking exercise the eight young people who took part evaluated Connexions Berkshire's communication channels by assessing the ways the organisation currently communicates with young people and suggesting ways in which this could improved.

The group then carried out a "matrix" assessment of the Bracknell Connexions centre. The matrix Standard is the unique quality framework for the effective delivery of information, advice and/or guidance on learning and work.

To undertake the assessment, the young people evaluated a number of areas including; the suitability of the information provided at the centre, the opportunities for young people to feedback on the service provided at the centre and that the information provided was accessible to all young people, as well as being accurate and up to date.

After a hearty pizza lunch, the group then assessed the Connexions Berkshire website for its style and content, before brainstorming ideas for some new poster designs. The day ended on a creative note with the group making "mood boards" by cutting out examples of cool graphic design from a selection style magazines. These mood boards will be used to develop the design of a range of new Connexions Berkshire promotional literature in the New Year.

Andy Layton (17), a student at Bracknell and Wokingham College, said, "Its really important that young people get to express their views and opinions, so I was really pleased to be asked to take part in Connexions' consultation day. Connexions is a service for young people, so I think its great that they asked us what we thought about what they do and that they will use our ideas and suggestions to continue improving their service to us in the future."

If you are a young person and would like to find out more about working with Connexions Berkshire please call 0845 408 5001, visit [www.connexions-berkshire.org.uk](http://www.connexions-berkshire.org.uk) or email [ypw@connexions-berkshire.org.uk](mailto:ypw@connexions-berkshire.org.uk)



Photo: Sarah Austin and Charlotte Stoddart both participated in the 11 MILLION Takeover Day

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