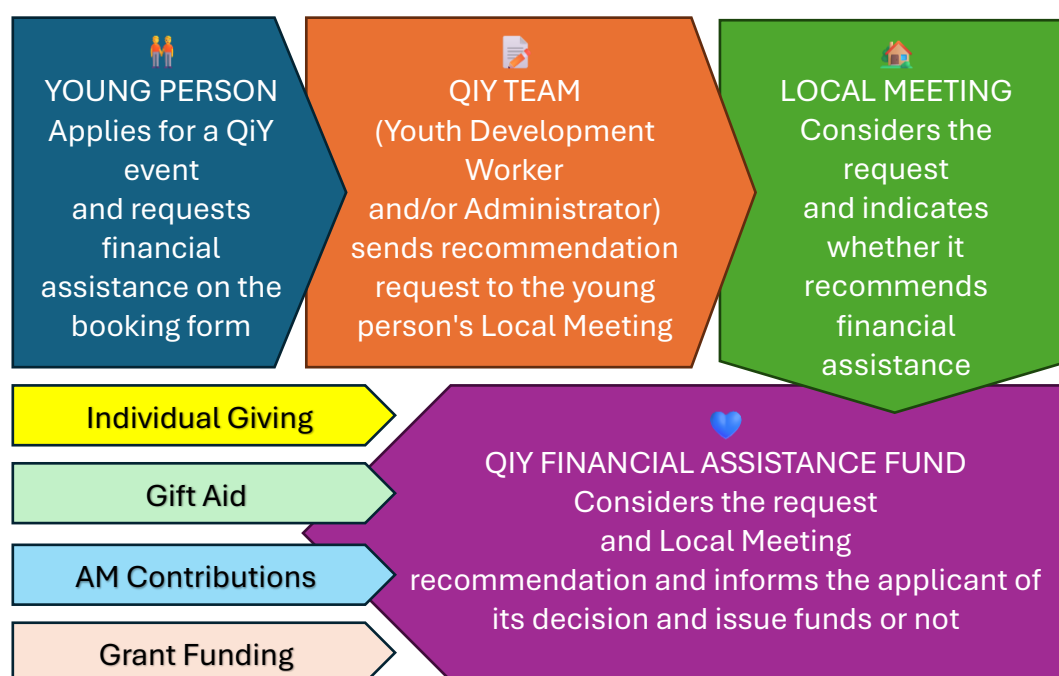


Guidance and Information for Local Meetings – Financial assistance for Young people attending Quakers in Yorkshire Youth Events

Information on the financial assistance fund: The process for applying for financial assistance (bursaries) to attend Quakers in Yorkshire youth events **has changed**. Rather than asking Local and Area Meetings to provide funding directly for individual young people, requests are now considered through a central Yorkshire-wide financial assistance fund. This fund is supported by individual donations, grant funding, and contributions from Area Meetings.

When a young person applies for financial assistance, we ask their Local Meeting whether they are happy to recommend that support be provided from this central fund. This approach helps make financial support for young people more consistent, accessible, and sustainable across Yorkshire.



Our Purpose: To ensure that all young people can participate fully in Quakers in Yorkshire (soon to be *Yorkshire Quakers*) Youth Events, regardless of financial circumstance.

These events are currently running in Yorkshire, however more may develop...

Event	Age range	Duration/frequency	Cost range per event (apx)	More info
Yorkshire Friends Holiday School (YFHS/HS)	Upper Secondary	6 nights 3 times per year	£415	www.yfhs.org.uk
Yorkshire Friends Holiday School Reunion	Upper Secondary	1 night 3 times per year	£50	www.yfhs.org.uk
Link Group (inc. Inters)	Secondary	2 nights 3-4 times per year	£40 - £80	www.quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/link-group

Junior Holidays	Primary	2 nights 2-3 times per year	£70	www.quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/junior-holidays
Yorkshire Quaker Camp	Families	3 nights once per year	£25	www.quakersinyorkshire.org.uk/yorkshire-quaker-camp

The following events are not Quakers in Yorkshire (nor Yorkshire Quakers) events, for which bursaries are directly Local and Area Meeting funded and **not** the scope of this policy.

Junior Yearly Meeting - YP@YM - Summer Shindig - FSSE: Senior Conference -FSSE: Junior Gathering

The role of the Local Meeting

When a young person applies for Financial Support and is understood to be connected (in some way – even if only geographically) with your Local Meeting QiY will email you a copy of their filled application. This will provide,

- the name of the applicant, what event they want to attend and why
- contact details for their responsible person, parent or carer filling in the form and their connection to your meeting, if any
- The event, cost and parental contribution to cost of the event, if any
- The context of their financial situation
- Any additional circumstances affecting their ability to attend e.g. travel costs, equipment costs, care responsibilities

You will also be emailed a link to a **recommendation form**. On this form you will be asked to give a view on the needs of the attending person. This might be very simple, you might know the applicant and be able to quickly recommend financial assistance or not, the form should provide enough information for you to make a recommendation. However, occasionally you might need to contact the person filling in the form, or the person they highlighted on the form as an intermediary so that you can make a recommendation (or not) with confidence. If you do need to contact an applicant's parent, carer or responsible adult be mindful that we are looking to understand need, rather than prove need. Which is to say, "can you tell me a little about why financial assistance is being requested?", is a good question, and "can you please provide evidence of benefits" is a bad question!

Further guidance for Local Meetings

This guidance is intended to help Local Meetings make recommendations consistently, sensitively and with enough confidence to support young people well. The aim is to understand whether financial assistance would help remove a barrier to participation, not to require families to prove hardship.

- Local Meetings may decide who is best placed to review requests. This may be a pastoral care Friend, Clerk, youth contact, Elder, or another trusted Friend.
- Where the Youth Development Worker, a youthwork volunteer, or another Friend knows the young person well, their insight may help inform the recommendation.

- A young person may be meaningfully connected to Friends even if they are rarely seen at Sunday Meeting. Their connection may be through youth events, family links, geography, or wider Quaker community.
- Family finances can be complex, particularly where parents or carers are separated, divorced, or do not share financial responsibility equally. A young person may still need support even where one adult appears able to contribute, or where adults disagree about paying for Quaker events.
- Some meetings will receive more requests than others. This may reflect the level of youthwork locally, the number of young people connected to the meeting, or the financial circumstances of families in the area.