



Food Equality Project

Plymouth Alliance, final report, May 2021

Finding new ways to work creatively and support young people in Plymouth.

We have been working with two distinct groups of young people in Plymouth and further developing our creative methods (<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7747470>) to work collaboratively online. Easing of restrictions has allowed us to meet face to face to take photos and plan our final creative outputs. See our photos featured on <https://cookcarecampaign.co.uk/gallery/>

Using online collaborative tools in our weekly zoom sessions have been very effective at supporting conversations, sharing digital content, personal food experiences and views of topical food issues. Consequently, when we had the opportunity to meet face to face we had a shared frame of reference to build on.

Lisa Howard, Food Equality Project, Food Plymouth.

- A highlight has been a visit to the Plot, a creative community space and food hub to take photos and eat together. We plan to return for more photos and interviews!
- Young people, young carers in particular, often have busy lives. It is important to be flexible and accommodate everyone.
- Working with a well-supported group of young people that was already formed has helped with planning and having open conversations.

Emma and Vicky
Bad food delivery yesterday
Milk and eggs split
I had to go out and redo the shop that they messed up

Rashford demands a 'meal a day' for all school pupils in need
Money better spent elsewhere
EOTHO will not slow transmission
Footballer says his campaign to end child food poverty in England still has a 'million miles to go'

Government wants to ban all junk food ads online
I don't think you should ban all junk food - kids will want to be kids

Food waste 'scandal' as UK's biggest supermarkets bin 190 million meals a year
Shocking that people food like that - I never waste anything

People struggling & gov are against it
Willing to do eat out to help out - gov paying for half a meal but won't pay for childrens school meals

Boris incompetent and immature © 11 Nov 2020 Lost updated at 15:50
Isn't the government meant to help you?

Shows that communities can come together
Doing what the government is not doing

Vulnerable household and he had no mask - we have a notice up for deliveries

Food waste 'scandal' as UK's biggest supermarkets bin 190 million meals a year

Shocking that people food like that - I never waste anything

Isn't the government meant to help you?

Making the transition from working online to a blended model has had pros and cons. It has supported some of the group to develop skills, including digital photography and audio recording, to explore some of these topics in more depth. We are committed to working as flexibly as possible and planning a final creative outcome and small event to share outcomes in the form of a zine publication.

Time spent planning interactive resources and creative activities for our online sessions with young people really paid off in terms of supporting groups to engage, enjoy the sessions and have some detailed conversations.

Our challenges and learning

- The main challenge has been reaching young people and support workers impacted by lockdown conditions. Key to success in this area has been working closely with local partners Fotonow CIC and Barnardos to share resources, skills and networks.

Lauren Wadey, Project Lead Plymouth Young Carers.

- *“This project has been done in consultation with young people throughout and both Food Plymouth and Fotonow have done a great job in supporting young people to express their views via multiple platforms – this may have enabled some young people to share more than they would usually.”*

Our next steps

The learning and the creative methods we have developed during the Food Power funded work will be shared in a *Food Equality Creative Methods Toolkit* (near completion) - illustrating how these methods have worked in practice and how they can be applied to different contexts. The Toolkit will be available to download here from Food Plymouth website <https://foodplymouth.org/actions/plymouth-food-equality-project/>

Our key achievements and impact

- Providing opportunities for young people to connect and share experiences about the covid pandemic and beyond using food as a ‘lens’
- In addition to supporting conversations we have been able to share our creative outputs widely in digital formats, helping to amplify voices and experiences
- We hope to put our Toolkit into practice with a wider range of groups and communities locally