



Welcome information for parents

Welcome to YFC

You've made an excellent decision choosing YFC for your child. This factsheet will provide you with essential information to ensure that they get the most out of their involvement in YFC.

About YFC

YFC provides the opportunity for young people to develop and learn in a fun, safe environment by participating in a diverse and educational club programme, which has been put together by members of the club. YFC is an inclusive organisation and open to any young person between the ages of 10 and 28.

Young Farmers Clubs' purpose is:

To provide activities for rural young people to educate them in agriculture, life skills, crafts and rural affairs whilst helping to build their confidence, self-esteem and their sense of responsibility to themselves and the wider community, whilst promoting leisure activities that support wellbeing.

Club officers and the supervision of under-18s.

Meetings are organised and run by members, with the help of club leaders. The club officers, including the club chair, club secretary, club treasurer and club leader are elected annually and are responsible for the club and the club activities in which members take part.

At least two of the above officers will be at every club meeting or event and will hold responsibility for the YFC members under the age of 18 that are present that day or evening.

These club officers are safely recruited and DBS checked and in order to take up the position provided suitability and character references. They are also expected to attend safeguarding training organised through the county federation. In addition, all staff employed by the county federation and National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs undergo these same 'safe recruitment' checks.

Club meetings

All members are involved in putting forward ideas for the programme. This is followed by a small group of the club members being tasked with the responsibility of organising the programme.

Generally, the programme is planned seasonally to include a mixture of practical hands-on activities, training and competition practice, guest speakers, visits and social events. The club has regular meeting times and for up-to-date information refer to the club programme.

Parents are welcome to see what happens or if you want to know more about the club, speak to one of the club leaders.

Behaviour and discipline

All members are expected to behave appropriately and act according to the YFC [Code of Conduct](#). Inappropriate behaviour that has an impact on other members isn't tolerated. Minor incidents will generally be dealt with by the club chair at their discretion, which could simply be a talk with the member.

Parents of those under 18 will be contacted if more serious incidents occur, such as bullying or fighting.

When dealing with incidents of inappropriate behaviour, depending on the circumstances, those concerned could be placed on a *membership suspension* (this is a neutral act) whilst the matter is investigated properly.

Older members, and particularly club officers, are expected to be role models for the club and must always set a good example members of the club.

Safeguarding

Parents are asked to ensure that their child arrives on time for meetings, bringing their child directly into the building and ensuring a club officer knows that he/she has arrived.

We also request that parents collect their child promptly from the meeting venue at the appointed end time.

Safeguarding and welfare is everyone's responsibility. Everyone is asked to be vigilant when it comes to safeguarding and if you have any safeguarding or welfare concerns for someone or about your child you should report them to the club or county safeguarding officers.

Club Safeguarding Officer [add name & contact details here]

County Safeguarding Officer [add name & contact details here]

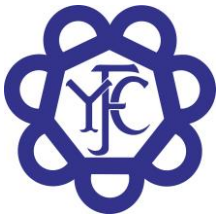
Additional needs

YFC welcomes all young people to join, however, the volunteer elected officer team are not specifically trained to work with young people with additional needs. If your child requires additional help with any activity or has any particular needs, please speak to one of the club officers/leaders to arrange how the team can support your child. The officer team can then seek advice from the county federation of YFC's. For example, arranging for a trained sessional worker to support their participation. Where YFC can accommodate additional needs, they will aim to do so.

Member obligations

Members are expected to take an active role in activities. We suggest that members:

- Attend club meetings regularly (if you have to miss a meeting due to any other commitments, they send your apologies for absence to the secretary — simply so the officer team know to expect you, or not to expect you)
- Attend and represent the club at a minimum of two county federation events including the county rally by participating in the competitions held that day
- Take part in and help the club with its fundraising and promotional events



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Financial matters

The club's main source of income is its annual subscriptions. This not only covers the basic costs of the club programme, but a certain amount goes to the county federation towards costs incurred running the county programme and employing staff. In addition, an agreed amount will go to NFYFC to contribute towards the programme development carried out by the National Federation.

In some cases, the annual subscription covers the cost of insurance, which is provided by NFU Mutual to every member participating in organised and planned YFC events and meetings. Some clubs collect the insurance premium separately.

Annual subscriptions are due on 1 September and should be paid promptly. Members must be in receipt of a current membership card to be covered by the insurance.

Some events in the club programme, such as a visit, a trip or attending a club dinner/dance/ may require an additional payment. Costs vary and details will be circulated during meetings and well in advance of the date.

We need you!

Help is needed in many areas and your support is essential if the club is to run as it should. This responsibility should not fall only on the heads of a few volunteers, and your child will also benefit from a demonstration of your commitment to the club as well as their own.

Parents are asked to help in any manner they can, such as helping out on a club night by setting up tables or perhaps helping to clear up for a week or two. If you wish to help out at a club night or special event, please speak to one of the club officers as you may have to complete a safe recruitment check to ensure the safety of all members if you would like to help on a regular basis.

Questions, queries or concerns

If you have any questions regarding YFC that have not been answered in this information, please do not hesitate to contact any of the club officers/leaders. If your child is unhappy with any aspect of the club or has a problem with another member, please let one of the club officers know.

We hope your child will be very happy at [*insert club name*] YFC and we appreciate your support, time and help encouraging your child to take up the opportunities YFC has to offer.