

Are you a Friar Park young person aged 16-19 and want to help make Friar Park a better place to live?

We are looking for two **young people** to join a new partnership board for Friar Park.

This is your chance to shape what Friar Park becomes over the next 10 years.

Friar Park has been offered up to £20m funding from the government's Pride in Place programme. This money will support local improvements chosen by people who live and work in Friar Park.

A new board is being set up to bring people together and decide how to spend the money. The members will be local residents, businesses, community groups, young people, elected councillors and the local MP.

The majority of positions on the Board have been filled. We now need to find **two** young people to join the Board.

Over the next 12 months, the Board will:

- Talk with local people
- Create a plan to improve the area
- Decide how the money should be spent.

Application is by expression of interest by midnight Friday 22nd May

Find out more information about the expression of interest and what it means to be part of a board here: <http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/PrideInPlace> or contact Rebecca Jenkins on 07502 614303 or FriarPark_pipp@sandwell.gov.uk

Further Information

Young People Recruitment - Friar Park Pride in Place Neighbourhood Board

1. About Board Members

We want to hear from young people who:

- Have a strong connection to Friar Park (e.g. you live / study / work in Friar Park)
- Care a lot about Friar Park and want to make it a better place to live
- Will share their views and opinions on what young people want and need
- Work well with people who have different views
- Can keep discussions respectful and constructive
- Can handle disagreement calmly and fairly
- Respect others and make sure everyone is included
- Have enough time to commit to the role

What's involved

- The Board will hold meetings once a month in Friar Park. There may be extra meetings sometimes.
- The first year (2026-2027) will be busy, so you may need to put in more time.
- Board Members must follow a code of conduct about how they behave and treat other people.
- Board Members will be appointed for an initial **four-year term**, with the option to extend.

Who is on the Board

The Board is Chaired by Jonathan Ward. Jonathan grew up in Friar Park and is Deputy Director of the Albion Foundation, a local charity. The other members of the board are local residents, businesses, community groups, young people, elected councillors and the local MP.

What you can gain from being a Board Member

- Chance to be part of a Board making decisions about Friar Park's future
- Experience of being a Board Member
- Understanding of issues, challenges and opportunities to improve Friar Park
- Chance to advise and support the Board with getting more young people involved

- Chance to offer your opinion on how projects will / are impacting young people
- Insight into governance and decision-making
- Understanding of how projects and programmes are delivered
- Connections with a range of partners all focused on improving Friar Park
- Great experience for your CV

2. How to apply

To apply, please send an **expression of interest**. This can be a short, written statement or a video. It should include:

- What your connection is to Friar Park (e.g. you live / work / study in Friar Park)
- Your school, college, or youth group
- What you love about Friar Park
- What made you want to get involved
- What you think you would add to the Board
- If you didn't agree with a board decision — say about funding or how something was done — what would you do?
- If you have had any previous experience of representing young people e.g., as part of a School Council / Youth Group please tell us about this. Previous experience is not required
- Any support you would need to help you in your role as a Board Member
- Your home address, phone number and email

If you apply in writing, please keep your statement to **no more than 300 words**. If you apply by video, please submit an MP4 file and keep it to **no longer than 5 minutes**.

Please submit your expression of interest **by midnight on Friday 22 May** to **friarpark_pipp@sandwell.gov.uk**

3. How the panel will choose board members

- A panel involving the Chair of the Board and other representatives will consider the applications.
- The panel will choose young people based on how good a fit they are with the qualities in section 1
- You can get involved in other ways and share your views. Join the mailing list to stay up to date.

Please note: Your expression of interest will be shared with the selection panel and retained by the Council for 6 months after the conclusion of the selection process

4. Useful information

Applying for Funding

You can still be a board member and apply for funding. In some cases, you may need to sit out of some discussions or decisions. Please talk to us if this applies to you.

Payment and Expenses

This is a **volunteer role** similar to being a school governor. We will fund travel costs if you need help to attend meetings

Support in the role

Officers from the council and other Board members will support you. Other young people in Sandwell on similar boards can also help.

If we can make it easier for you to take part, please let us know.

Speak to us

If you need support or would like to talk about the role, contact Rebecca Jenkins at Sandwell Council on 07502 614303 or FriarPark_pipp@sandwell.gov.uk

Here are some links to find out more

- Friar Park Pride in Place website: <http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/PrideInPlace>
- Pride in Place Government Prospectus: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pride-in-place-programme-prospectus/pride-in-place-programme-prospectus>
- Draft Neighbourhood Board Membership: [Link](#)
- Friar Park Neighbourhood Board Terms of Reference: [Link](#)