

# The Place Standard tool

A Version for Young People

## Additional Resource:



This section contains further resource to help you organise and run Place Standard workshops with children and young people.

### People:

- Facilitator (& assistants as appropriate)
- Participants: ideally up to 12 children / young people
- Or, run in multiple groups of max 12 per group

### Time

1 – 3 sessions; each lasting 1.5 to 3 hours

Venue: As appropriate

- **Facilitator's 'Cheat Sheet'**
- **'Mapping Method'**

## Facilitator's 'Cheat Sheet'

This cheat sheet provides a quick overview of how to facilitate groups using the Place Standard tool. It includes a quick 'Get Started' guide to using the Place Standard tool as well as some guidance on an enhanced 'Mapping Method' to use the tool when you may want to have more detailed discussions.

### 'Get Started' with the Place Standard

#### 1. Introduce the project

*We will be using a tool called the Place Standard today to help you have a conversation about [the place] and to get your views on what is important to you.*

*The Place Standard tool has 14 questions about different issues in [the place]. You will have the opportunity to discuss these and provide a score from 1 to 7. This will help to create a diagram that records what you think about [the place].*

#### 2. Agree the place to be assessed

The area for discussion may already have been agreed but it is useful to discuss this with the group so that everyone understands the area being assessed. You may wish to use props such as a large map, photographs or video of the area.

#### 3. Discuss the Place Standard themes and provide scores

Introduce the Place Standard themes, working through each one and supporting the young people to talk about the issues. Use the prompts to help the conversation if needed. Then invite the group to score each and adding comments for each question that reflect the discussion. Once all of the questions have been worked through, then the scores can be recorded on the diagram and the shape drawn.

#### 4. Discuss and agree priorities

The group can then discuss and develop a list of priorities for action that respond to their findings from the map. Facilitators can help participants prioritise and detail possible steps to achieve these.

This produces a final Place Standard tool output, with scores, comments, priorities and a Place Standard shape based on, and facilitated by, steps outlined above



# 'Mapping Method' for the Place Standard

This methodology is developed to support enhanced engagement with young people

The mapping method helps to ground Place Standard conversations in the lived experience of the participants. This is an enhanced approach that is structured across 3 stages which can be run at different times or as part of a single longer session. If running as part of a longer single session then it may be useful to allocate at least half a day for the work.

## Session 1:

1. Facilitators introduce the project
2. Discuss:
  - The place to be assessed
  - What's important to our lives in this place? Introduce the 4 broader questions and the Place Standard themes under each of them
3. Identify:
  - What / where are the key sites / buildings / streets / places of interests or problem etc
  - Define boundaries and plan a suitable **walking route**

### Where I go and what I do?

Streets, squares & buildings

Nature:  
Parks, woods, hills, beaches

Play, hang out, games & hobbies

### How do I get from one place to another?

Walking, wheeling and cycling

Buses, trains, trams, boats (Public transport)

Traffic and parking

### How I feel and how I care?

Having our say and being listened to

Fixed, clean and managed

Feeling safe

Feeling proud and be a part of

### What I need to live well?

Meeting and talking to people

Homes, friends and neighbours

Jobs and places to work

Schools, libraries, shops and other services

### Tips:

- A printed large map of the area would be helpful
- Encourage the participants to take ownership of the walking route so they can lead the walk during **Session 2**

# 'Mapping Method' for the Place Standard

## Session 2:

- 1. The Walk** – led by the group. Along the planned route.
- 2. Stops** – stop at each key sites, discuss the relevant Place Standard themes. Discuss also: What are good and what are not so good at each stop; what are important / less important; what needs to change or improve etc
- 3. Record** – take photos, make videos, write notes, annotate on map etc

### Tips:

Bring along paper copies of map to annotate any observations / key points  
Use phones or a 'go-pro' camera to film the walk. The film can be played back to help discussion during the third and final session. You can remove the sound and speed up (4x) the film as the group prefer.



## Session 3:

Session 3 is essentially the same process as in the 'Get Started' guide.

- 1. Discuss** the Place Standard themes and provide scores. Introduce the Place Standard themes, working through each one and supporting the young people to talk about the issues.
- 2. Use the prompts** to help the conversation if needed. Then invite the group to score each and adding comments for each question that reflect the discussion.
- 3. Score each question:** Once all of the questions have been worked through, then the scores can be recorded on the diagram and the shape drawn.
- 4. Discuss and agree priorities.** The group can then discuss and develop a list of priorities for action that respond to their findings from the map. Facilitators can help participants prioritise and detail possible steps to achieve these.

**Remember:** If a young person does not think they know enough to score or does not want to give a score to a theme, they should never be compelled to do so.

This produces a final Place Standard tool output, with scores, comments, priorities and a Place Standard shape based on, and facilitated by, steps outlined above

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Adapted / developed by:



In consultations with children and young people

Place Standard Partners:

