

This Christmas, the Archbishop of York Youth Trust are taking part in The Big Give charity challenge to raise £10,000 for Young Leaders across the north of England.

From the 30 November to 7 December 2021, every donation given to the Youth Trust on their Big Give page is doubled by generous donors who have already supported the cause.

The Youth Trust works in partnership with schools, churches and communities to support young people with skills in leadership, confidence and character-building. Its Young Leaders Award has empowered over 120,000 young people from over 1,000 schools to learn and practice key skills to transform their communities through social action.

Projects like the Young Leaders Award have become even more important due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which saw a significant rise in mental health issues in children and young people, as we help to re-build young people's confidence and wellbeing.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell said, "I am in full support of the Youth Trust as they take on this charity challenge. We are now at a different phase of living with Covid where there are different priorities, and I think the priority now should be to our children, young people, families, and schools. Please do support the Youth Trust generously for the Big Give, as they give young people the opportunities to develop their character, leadership and faith."

Archbishop Stephen will be hosting an event for the Youth Trust on the 30 November at 7pm as part of the Big Give charity challenge week. The event is on Zoom and will include Archbishop Stephen sharing his vision for children and young people, and he will also answer questions from young people. Submit a question for the Archbishop [here](#) and sign up to attend the event [here](#). It is a free event, all donations from the evening will be through [the Big Give page](#).

Book your free space for the Evening with Archbishop Stephen: Empowering Young People to Transform Society [here](#).

The Youth Trust have already been granted champion funding for their Big Give charity challenge by The Together Fund. This generous donation means that the target for the campaign stands at £4,875, which they aim to raise in a week. Every donation given during the Big Give week will be doubled to a total of £9,750.

Through The Big Give week, the Youth Trust aim to empower 500 Young Leaders across the north of England to be agents of change in their communities, by learning and practising key leadership skills and character virtues. Through learning these skills and virtues, children and young people will then make positive change within their communities, as they see where there is most need.

"I really enjoyed [the YLA] and it has taught me how lucky I actually am and has taught me to believe in myself more." Key Stage 2 Young Leader

Notes:

- To find out more and **donate**, visit - donate.thebiggive.org.uk/campaign/a056900001txPZrAAM
- More information on the **Young Leaders Award** - abyyt.com/yla
- Children's mental health concerns after the pandemic - [here](#)

Collage of many smiling faces of Young People

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