



# growing up in the west midlands

[www.growingupinthewestmidlands.info](http://www.growingupinthewestmidlands.info)



## Vulnerable children and young people

Learning cluster for organisations

### background

The idea for this group was formed during a workshop at the G:up Big Event in May 2006. Members of G:up from Save the Children, Barnardo's and The Children's Society have taken a lead in developing this cluster.

### purpose

The group exists to improve the lives of vulnerable children and young people in the West Midlands. This includes those who are sexually exploited, missing, displaced, trafficked as well as others that are at risk.

We aim to do this by working in partnership to improve the services offered by voluntary and community organisations, and by lobbying for change.

The group offers an open space for discussion, exploration, action planning, building momentum, working outside the framework of targets and competition.

We welcome involvement from people who work with children and young people in the region and who share our agenda for change. It doesn't matter if you work at a very local level or for a national organisation, if you are big or small, newly formed or well established.

### Next gathering

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007 2pm-4pm at Save the Children, Hawthorns House, Smethwick B66 1BB. Please let Simon know if you would like to come [spc@childsoc.org.uk](mailto:spc@childsoc.org.uk).

### About G:up

G:up brings together voluntary organisations from the children's, young people's, families' and play sectors. It is supported by the West Midlands Voluntary Youth Sector Forum and the regional NCVCCO network. Our vision is to develop the West Midlands as a region that respects and acts upon the needs, interests and aspirations of children and young people, and the voluntary and community organisations that work with them.

## This cluster works to

- ⊙ Improve the lives of vulnerable children and young people in the West Midlands.

## what we do:

- ⊙ Learn
- ⊙ Collaborate
- ⊙ Connect
- ⊙ Research
- ⊙ Campaign

## people involved:

- ⊙ work in the West Midlands Region
- ⊙ want to collaborate
- ⊙ come from organisations of all sizes
- ⊙ are empowered to act on behalf of their organisation

## For more on the cluster contact:

Simon Cottingham [spc@childsoc.org.uk](mailto:spc@childsoc.org.uk)

To find out about G:up contact:  
[info@growingupinthewestmidlands.info](mailto:info@growingupinthewestmidlands.info)

G:up (Growing Up in the West Midlands) is an open regional network of voluntary and community organisations working with children, young people and families.

**bayc** acts as accountable body for G:up.

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