

Case Studies

From engagement to action

There is no single way to create parks that better meet the needs of teenage girls. Across the UK, local authorities, charities and community organisations are exploring different approaches to engagement, co-design and park improvements.

The projects below demonstrate how listening to girls can lead to meaningful change. Together they show that every community is different, but the starting point is often the same: asking girls about their experiences and acting on what they tell you.

'Our Place' - Central Park, Chelmsford

Lead organisations: Chelmsford City Council, Make Space for Girls and Social Place

Working with teenage girls and gender diverse young people, this project explored how Central Park could become a more welcoming and inclusive place for teenagers.

Through a series of workshops, site visits and engagement activities, young people shared their experiences of the park, identified barriers to using different spaces and developed ideas for change.

The project influenced physical improvements within the park while also helping shape wider policy, planning and strategic thinking across Chelmsford and Essex.

Key learning

Meaningful engagement can influence far more than individual park improvements. It can help shape policy, strategy and long-term approaches to creating more inclusive public spaces.

[Read the full report](#)



Case Studies

Make Space - Rowntree Park

Lead organisation: Make Space York and The Friends of Rowntree Park

Originally inspired by the work of Make Space for Girls, the Make Space York project has worked alongside hundreds of teenage girls over several years to understand how parks in York could better meet their needs.

The project combines ongoing engagement with practical action. Girls have helped shape a dedicated area in Rowntree Park, influenced wider park improvements and continue to guide an annual programme of events and activities that encourage girls to build confidence and feel they belong in public space.

The project demonstrates the value of long-term engagement, recognising that creating more inclusive parks is an ongoing process rather than a one-off consultation. Key learning

Creating parks that work for teenage girls isn't only about physical design. Ongoing engagement and activation help build confidence, create a sense of belonging and ensure parks continue to evolve alongside the needs of young people.

[Read the Make Space York report](#)



Case Studies

Brickfields Park, Bath

Lead organisation: Your Park Bristol & Bath

At Brickfields Park, young people were involved in shaping improvements to create a park that better reflected their needs and experiences.

Engagement with local girls helped identify barriers to using the park and informed the design of new spaces that support socialising, informal activity and spending time outdoors.

The project demonstrates how local engagement can be translated into practical improvements that create a more welcoming environment for a wider range of young people.

Key learning

Listening to girls can help identify simple changes that make parks feel more welcoming without fundamentally changing the character of the space.

[Find out more about the project](#)

