

BIG IDEAS

2025



**Saturday 30 August/
Sunday 31 August
Stirling University**

Delegate Information Pack

Your essential guide to the Big Ideas Weekend event, including information on the programme, arrangements and the venue. Welcome to the biggest weekend in youth work!

Get involved on socials! #BigIdeas



The network
of youth groups



Welcome

Hello and welcome to the Big Ideas Weekend 2025!

This weekend is all about having fun, coming together, meeting other young people and youth workers and taking lots of exciting ideas back to your community group. This information pack includes all the information you need for this weekend's event.

The event brings together young people, young leaders, volunteers and workers from across Scotland and we hope that you will find the event of practical use in your youth work delivery and enjoy the range of workshops that are on offer.

Date of Event	Saturday 30 – Sunday 31 August 2025 Arrival time: 9:00am. Departure time: 3:30pm.
Location	The University of Stirling
Lead Member of Staff	Main Contact 07816 300 183 Alternative Main Contact 07702 615 114
First Aid leads	Saturday: Stuart Conquer Sunday: Julie Middlemass Brown Other First Aiders are also available. Ask any of the Youth Scotland team to signpost you.
24 Hour No.	07816 300 183 / 07702 615 114
Selected Youth Scotland Staff	Michele Meehan (Child Protection Lead) Charlotte Holder (Alternative Main Contact) Andy May (Registration/Accommodation) Stuart Conquer (Workshops & Presentation) Kevin Turner (Communications & Presentation)
Food/ refreshments included	All meals provided. Please bring snacks. STRICTLY NO ALCOHOL TO BE CONSUMED.
Transport Arrangements	Your Youth Worker will be notifying you of transport arrangements. Alternatively, if you are 16+ and coming independently, you should organise your own transport. Free parking is available at each accommodation block. Any questions, please see your youth worker. <i>Please note: Youth Scotland is not responsible for delegates while they are travelling to and from The Big Ideas Event. If you have any difficulties you should contact the 24 hour number.</i>
Consent Forms	We require a consent form for EVERY delegate. Young People under 16 must submit their consent form in advance with a completed declaration of consent by parent or guardian (section 7 of online form).

Workshops

On arrival you will be given a name badge, an event pack and a workshop schedule that tells you which workshops you will be attending and when.

The event is very busy, and workshops are fully allocated, so please do follow the schedule you have been given. Signs that direct you to each workshop are displayed around the venue to help you find your way.

Clothing

All delegates are advised to wear comfortable clothes and trainers. Wear clothing that you don't mind getting messy and consider bringing old clothes. The university buildings are typically very warm - light/ comfortable clothing is recommended!

Saturday Evening Dinner & Entertainment

Dinner is provided for residential delegates, and this will be served at 6:00pm in the Haldanes Restaurant. The Evening entertainment kicks off at 7.00pm in the main atrium area of the Andrew Miller Building.

This will include a range of activities, from party games and sparkle face paint to board games, music and much more. There will also be a quiet, chill-out space for those wanting a break.

Big Ideas Got Talent!

As part of this year's evening entertainment, we are proud to be running the first ever Big Ideas Got Talent, Youth Scotland's very own talent show! Whether you're a youth worker or a young person, a singer, comedian or a magician – we want you and your talents to take the stage and leave us speechless! The show will be held in the A3 auditorium as part of the evening programme from 7.00pm - be there and be part of it!

Accommodation

All residential accommodation is located at the Juniper Block. All delegates will have their own private, lockable single bedroom with en suite bathroom facilities. Towels and bed linen are provided. Groups will be housed together.

On arrival you can leave your luggage stored at the registration desk until you check in at 5:20pm (after the keynote session). Each bedroom has its own key. Please don't lose it as there is a £30 charge for each lost key!

Check out should be done on Sunday after breakfast and before Workshop One. You can leave your luggage at the reception desk.

On Arrival at Stirling University

When you arrive on Saturday, please come and register with the Youth Scotland team at the Atrium

in the Andrew Miller Building where you will receive your Big Ideas welcome pack and ID to start the event.

From here, you can drop off your luggage at the registration desk. Please note, whilst Youth Scotland will do everything possible to ensure your belongings are safe, we cannot be responsible for any loss.



If you arrive on the Friday evening, please use the 24 hour contact number to reach us: 07816 300 183 / 07702 615 114. Please note: for Friday guests (except for YIN), there is no dinner but breakfast will be provided on Saturday.

Workshop Allocation

We have done our best to make sure that you can attend as many of your first-choice workshops as possible. However, due to the large numbers and limited space, you may have been allocated other



choices. We would ask that you please stick to your schedule.

At Stirling University:



Stirling University is a fantastic venue to explore and we are thrilled to be back here for The Big Ideas Weekend in 2025. In your pack, a map has been included to allow you to see exactly where all workshops, accommodation and networking areas are.

If you are attending the residential, you must stay in the grounds at all times. This is essential for your safety and is not negotiable.

Please note that this is a dry event and neither young people nor adults are permitted to drink alcohol at any time.

Travel and Car Parking

The University of Stirling has many bus links from Stirling city centre and some from Bridge of Allan. You can check out the websites below for the most up-to-date timetable information:

- [Citylink](#)
- [Mackies](#)
- [Stagecoach](#)

For delegates who have travelled by car or mini-bus,

you have access to the university's car park free of charge. The main parking area is at the rear of the Cottrell Building.

There are plug-in points available for electric cars, accessible parking spaces and various ground-level entrances and elevators too.

Catering / Meals

All meals will be served at Haldanes Restaurant, please follow the signs from the main marketplace and registration area.

Vending machines are located onsite, across the University and there is a café and coffee shop at the Atrium. Don't forget to bring your water bottle and any snacks you may need.

If you have any dietary requirements, please include this in your consent form or notify Youth Scotland prior to the event.

What to Prepare

The team have prepared a fantastic range of activities for you that will push you to try new things, work as a team and develop as a leader. For most sessions, there is nothing to prepare, just come with an open mind and a positive attitude!

A few ideas on what to bring might include the following:

- Comfortable clothing
- Overnight clothing including pyjamas and underwear & socks
- Toiletries (shower gel, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant) etc.
- Fleece / warm jumper
- Trousers / jeans / tracksuit
- Water bottle
- Jacket / warm coat
- Dirty clothes bag
- Hairdryers / Straighteners
- Snacks
- Pens / notepad
- Instruments, outfits etc. for the talent show!
- Any medication you may need (please note this on your consent form)

Mobile Phones

You are allowed to bring your mobile phones, at your own risk, and you will be able to use it when activities are not taking place.

Money

You do not need any money as everything is provided. However, there may be occasions when you can buy snacks so you may want to bring a small amount for the shops on site.

Medication

If you require medication e.g. inhalers – please bring a spare and ensure it is in date. Security will be provided for your medication where required.

Support

Please tell us if you have any special needs before the course so we can make your participation as comfortable, enjoyable and safe as possible.

Valuables

There are no lock-up facilities available at the venues, so please don't bring anything valuable (such as a laptops, jewellery, etc.). Youth Scotland cannot take responsibility for any loss.

Smoking

Participants are not permitted to smoke inside the venues or bedrooms at any time. This includes e-cigarettes. There will be an allocated smoking area on the day.

Alcohol & Illegal Substances Policy

No alcohol or illegal substances are to be brought or consumed by any participants or staff during the course. If you are found with any alcohol or illegal substances you will be sent home. This applies to both adults and young people.

The Big Ideas Code of Conduct

All participants are asked to comply with Code of Conduct which is to:

- Treat everybody as you would like to be treated yourself.
- Set an example to fellow participants. Remember actions speak louder than words.
- Arrive on time to all sessions, wearing the necessary clothing to participate or bringing the appropriate equipment (e.g. water bottle, musical instrument, folders, or pen).
- Be polite to activity staff, deliverers, venue staff and volunteers.
- Respect the decisions of the course staff and deliverers on the activity at all times.
- Respect the rules regarding no alcohol or non-prescriptive drugs.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all fellow participants regardless of their ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.

LGBTQ+ Friendly Event

In addition to the above, we would like to clearly state that Big Ideas and all Youth Scotland events are LGBTQ+ friendly



Responsible Sourcing

As we work to reduce our environmental impact, we are pleased to note that the branded bottles and pens issued this year are made from biodegradable and recycled materials.

Thank You

Thanks to our funding workshop and marketplace representatives for supporting this event and Youth Scotland's work.

Thank you to the Scottish Government and Inspiring Scotland for their continued support across our projects and programmes.

And of course, a **huge thank you to all of you for coming** and for making Big Ideas Weekend the biggest weekend in youth work!



About Us

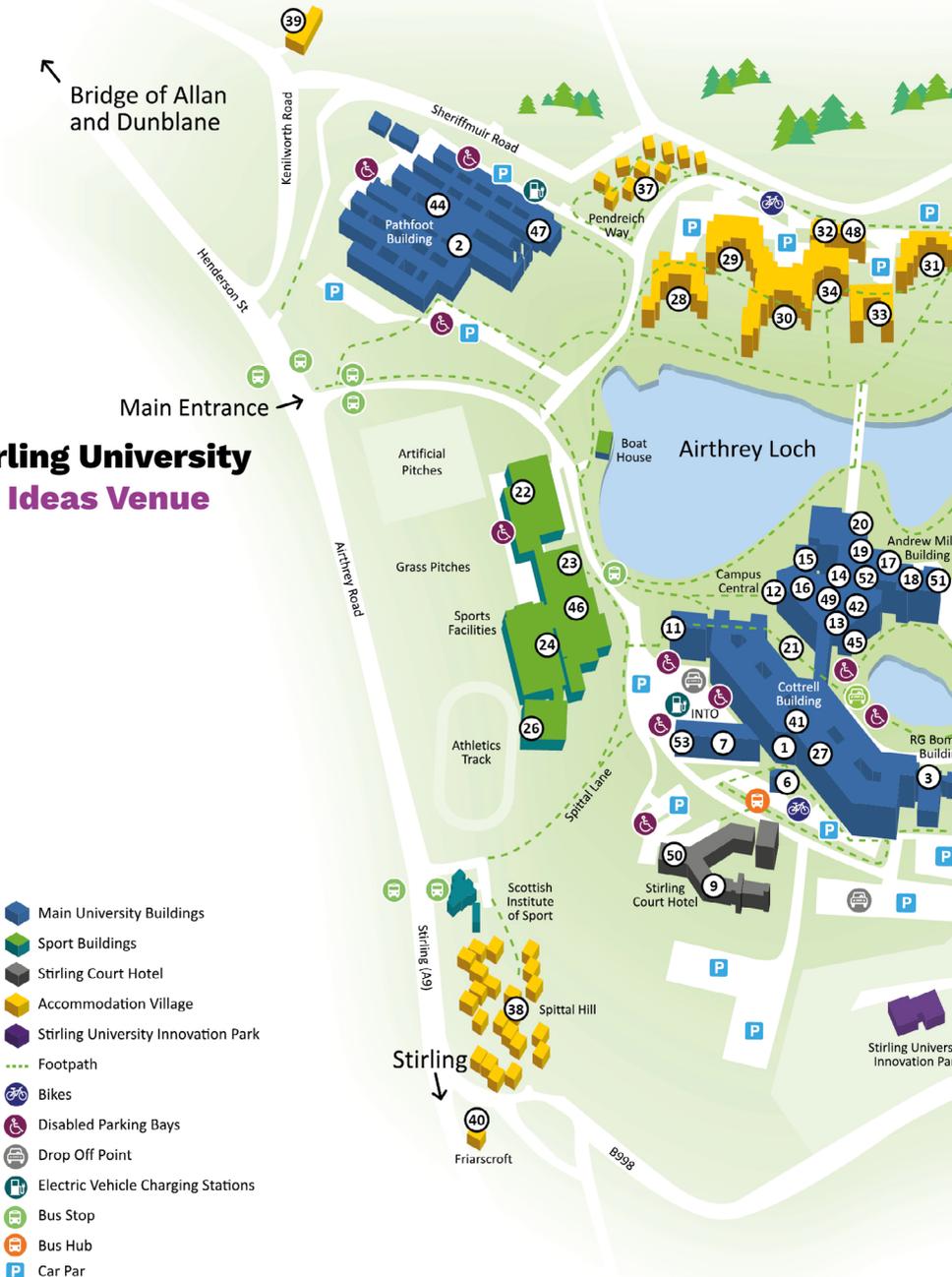
We are Scotland's network for community-based youth work.

We provide quality youth work programmes, information, resources, training and support to local youth workers and groups.

Find out more about our work, network and membership online: www.youthscotland.org.uk



Stirling University Big Ideas Venue





Main University Buildings

1. Cottrell Building (main entrance)
2. Pathfoot Building
3. RG Bomont Building
4. Colin Bell Building
5. Iris Murdoch Building
6. Logie Lecture Theatre
7. INTO Building
8. Airthrey Castle
9. Stirling Court Hotel
10. Airthrey Medical and Dental Centre
11. C Block (entrance)

Andrew Miller Building

12. Campus Central
13. Macrobert Arts Centre
14. Atrium (including ATM and shops)
15. Library
16. Student Services Hub
17. Amazon Lockers
18. Students' Union
19. Co-op Supermarket
20. Pharmacy
21. Queen's Court

Sport Buildings

22. National Swimming Academy
23. Sports Facilities
24. National Tennis Centre
25. Sports Pavilion
26. Craig Gowans Football Centre
27. Sports Laboratory

Accommodation Village

28. Andrew Stewart Hall
29. H. H. Donnelly House
30. Fraser of Allander House
31. Polwarth House
32. Willow Court
33. Beech Court
34. Muirhead House
35. Juniper Court
36. Alexander Court (including Townhouses)
37. Pendreich Way
38. Spittal hill
39. Alangrange
40. Friarscroft

Catering

41. Bite
42. Café Bar at Macrobert
43. Café at Scion House
44. Crush Hall Pod
45. Haldane's Restaurant
46. Nourish
47. Pathfoot Dining Room
48. Refresh
49. Scran
50. Stirling Court Hotel
51. Students' Union
52. Sup
53. Umami



Big Ideas Weekend 2025

Get involved on socials!

#BigIdeas

Please see inside your ID badge for a copy of the complete event programme.

This event is partly supported by funding from CashBack for Communities.

