

## Principles of Aldi Foróige Citizenship Programme

The Youth Citizenship Programme, which was established by Foróige in 1969, is an essential part of Foróige’s work and central to the achievement of its purpose. The Aldi Foróige Youth Citizenship Programme is based on the belief that “each young person has the right and responsibility to improve the world in some way” (Foróige’s philosophy). Foróige sees citizenship as creating what ought to be: greater caring, greater community spirit, greater social justice. It is about changing the world for the better, interdependence with others and collective action for the common good. Therefore, all Citizenship Projects should adhere to the following principles.

- All projects should promote the purpose of Foróige i.e. to enable young people to involve themselves consciously and actively in their own development and in the development of society
- All projects should promote the philosophy of Foróige which believes that every young person:

is <b><i>Unique</i></b>	Each person has unique qualities and attributes.
is <b><i>Creative</i></b>	Creativity applies to many aspects of life: solving problems, organising, the arts, communicating, caring for others.
can <b><i>Take Responsibility</i></b>	We always have a choice: in what we think, do and become.
is <b><i>Interdependent With Others</i></b>	We develop through relations with other people. We achieve more by working together.
can <b><i>Make a Difference to the World</i></b>	Each person has something important to contribute to making the world a better place.
can <b><i>Have an Influence</i></b>	Reality is not fixed. It can be changed by our actions. Each person can influence what is going on. Each can influence what they become in life.
can <b><i>Learn From Every Situation</i></b>	Learning does not stop at school. It is part of everyday living. It is a lifelong process.

- All projects must be led by young people - their ideas, their work, their evaluation
- Projects should make a positive difference, directly or indirectly, to one person or a whole community anywhere in the world
- Projects should be based on an identified and researched need
- Evaluation should be an ongoing process throughout the lifetime of the project to identify what the young people involved learned and what the community gained
- Projects should be respectful of differing views
- Projects should promote equality