



Example Nominations for the Lord-Lieutenant's Awards for Young People

**A little bit of added detail can go a long way!
Take a look at these examples of how following
our 'Top Tips' can make your nominee shine:**

Instead of:

This young person volunteers every week at their local community centre helping them raise money for charities, helping to run activities for younger children, and helping them to plan events on their own initiative. They also volunteer at school through the 'Giving Back' programme, organising toy donations for nurseries and tins for people experiencing homelessness.

Try:

This young person is an ideal candidate for the Young Volunteer Award because they give selflessly and tirelessly to their community.

For the last two years they have volunteered every Saturday afternoon at their local community centre, spending 2.5 hours each week helping to run activities for 5–10-year-olds. The children love them—one said: 'they're my favourite volunteer, they always make me smile!' Outside of these activities they also take the initiative to plan future events and create beautiful posters for the community centre's fundraising events. This young person also supports our fundraising events by baking cakes for the bake sale and has done a sponsored bike ride, and has raised over £400 so far for the community centre!

At school they are also part of the 'giving back' programme, which aims to raise money for different causes. In December they ran a toy donation scheme, encouraging students to donate old toys to give to playschools and nurseries. Through their hard work, the school was able to donate 200 toys! In another 'giving back' scheme, they organised the collection of over 500 cans for a local charity for people experiencing homelessness.

What really stands out about them is their genuine love of helping others without expecting anything in return. No matter the cause, they will always be the first to volunteer and get involved. Their spirit is infectious, as proven by the two new volunteers who have joined the community centre from their school, inspired by their kindness and enthusiasm.

Instead of:

This young person has had a speech impediment since they were very young, and they have unfortunately been bullied because of this. They recently started attending the book club at the school library and have been able to make friends and come out of their shell. They are even helping another younger student to make friends as well.

Try:

I am delighted to nominate this young person for this award.

From an early age they struggled with a severe speech impediment which made it very difficult for them to make friends and negatively impacted their schoolwork because they were afraid to put their hand up and ask questions. This made them feel shy and isolated, and led to them being bullied by their classmates. It was heartbreaking to see how much they disliked going to school, but they put on a brave face each day and never complained.

This young person has always loved reading and joined the book club in the school library. Even though they didn't talk much and spent each meeting reading quietly, they really enjoyed hearing about other students' opinions. Over time they started making friends with other students in the club and decided to become a school librarian to spend more time with them at lunchtimes. They were so nervous being in a customer-facing role even though all they had to do was scan and stamp books. They have slowly built their confidence and now enjoy talking to students about the books they're taking out. They have started taking part in library events and have even led a book club meeting on their favourite book, leading the discussion and talking passionately with the other students.

In September a new student joined the book club who was also very shy, and they took this student under their wing, making sure he had the opportunity to speak in meetings and introducing him to their friends. They are even working with the school librarian to raise awareness about speech impediments and building their confidence to speak at an assembly on the topic!

I am so proud of how much their confidence has grown and the positive effect this had on others.

Remember our Top Tips:

- Pack as much into as few words as possible – focus on achievements and what difference the young person has made / what they have overcome.
- The panel can only judge on the information provided in the nomination, so make sure to provide as much detail as possible.
- Be factually correct and provide quantifiable evidence where relevant and possible
- Demonstrate the time and commitment the young person has put into their activity where relevant- include how long they have been involved in their activity, and how much time they dedicate to this each week.
- Testimony statements from those who have worked closely with or have been impacted by the young person are very helpful to demonstrate a full picture of their work.
- Write from the heart! You know this young person's story and their journey – this is your opportunity to celebrate them!
- A good nomination makes a young person shine against other nominees who have done similar things.
- For the young artist category ensure to include at least 3 examples of work that demonstrate the breadth of their skill and artistry. Video examples are best for music/drama nominations.

Make your nomination online at leestershire.gov.uk/llawards