



## OB1.Youth Exchange Presentation to Students & Parents



---

Presentations to Schools and Youth Groups can substantially raise awareness of Youth Exchange in the community and the presence of parents will often help to boost the programme considerably.

How this is achieved depends upon the nature of the school or group and of the connection which Rotary already has with it.

The attached PowerPoint presentation ([OB1A: A Powerpoint Presentation for Schools \(an example\)](#)) is an example of best practice and has been used as the basis of presentations by a number of DYEEOs around the country. [It may be downloaded here](#) and customised for individual circumstances. With it is a hand-out ([OB1B: D1130 Print-out of Schools Ppt Presentation](#)), also [downloadable here](#), with the salient points on it for the student to take home and show parents.

### Choosing your audience

Some have had success with fifteen minutes assemblies of an entire cohort of 200. This could be dramatically effective with the right mix of students, in, say, a selective school although achieving this mix is problematic.

Others prefer to speak to smaller groups of students after school. The Gifted and Talented group (the top 10% of any year group) is used to having additional after-school sessions for enrichment and usually contain most of the students who have the qualities which Rotary is looking for to be good Ambassadors. G&T Coordinators are always looking for topics for their programme and are accustomed to sending out letters of invitation home to students and to parents. Parents usually respond positively and it is possible to run, say, an hour-long session straight after school, which would allow for a PowerPoint presentation and a question and answer session. The merit of this is that everyone has chosen to be there and may even be half-way persuaded beforehand.

Another possibility, maybe when the link with the school is more established, is to secure a slot at a parents' evening.

Years 11 is the best target year to begin with but Year 12 is also worth speaking to, and the sooner year 10 hear the message the quicker they will be to respond next year. However, try to resist being offered only year 10 on the pretext that they are not under so much pressure as the other years. Most of the exchanges/camps are aimed at 16/17 year olds.

If there are any ROTEX at the school it is a good idea to get them to help with the presentation and add something about their experience. This not only sets up role models but also gives a focus for the students to ask the questions later that they would not ask an adult.

### Speaking to the Family of Rotary

Interact Clubs and Rotaract Clubs are also worth visiting to give short presentations. Apart from some of their members being potential YE students others may be potential host families.