

Welcome to Autus and the Connect4D project!



Connect4D is about researching and understanding Local Democracy and sharing your learning with young people using interactive multimedia and our 3D virtual learning environment.

As a researcher your job will be to investigate 5 key areas –

- Voting
- Political Parties
- Lobbying
- Elected Offices
- Assemblies and Councils

You'll investigate using research methods such as online tools, interviewing people who know about and work in local democracy and visiting places of interest with the support of the Autus team.

Once you have gathered your information you will work with the team of researchers and 3D modellers to create interesting 3D content (including activities, games, interactive boards) to showcase your learning and help young people at schools and youth clubs learn about the subject areas

Why is this project important?



Young people find it difficult to understand what democracy is about and how it impacts on their daily lives. As a result, many do not realise that they can influence change in their local community and make things better for themselves, their peers and families. We want to create a new and interesting way to teach young people about local democracy and hope that it will help them to participate in and make use of the infrastructure and institutions available to them.

What skills do I need to be a researcher?

There are no specific skills required as we will help you with everything you need. If you are able to use the internet that's a great start! You can be involved as much or as little as you like as there are lots of different jobs. For example, those with technical or creative skills can help with designing and creating the 3D content and those who are confident to travel independently can visit places of interest and take photos or meet with their local MP to ask some questions about one of the 5 investigation areas. Others can help by taking on a peer mentoring role to teach young people to navigate the 3D content on our showcase and roadshow.



The 3D virtual learning environment



We have created a dedicated space in our 3D environment for Connect4D. It's a blank canvass for you and the team of researchers to add information and content that you gather through your research and investigation. We already have a number of people who have experience of local democracy waiting to share their knowledge so that you have the material to create learning content with support from the Autus team.

We hope you will join us in using 3D virtual worlds, avatars and interactive content to research, learn and educate others about democracy in a fun and engaging way