

we are

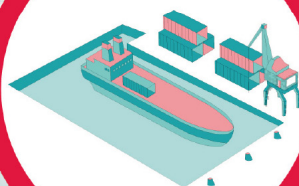


We are JES

We are JES. Above all, we want children and young people to feel at home in the city. In Antwerp, Brussels and Ghent, we organise activities and projects for and with youngsters in their leisure time, education, work, training and welfare. Using our participants as a starting point, we follow them in all their areas of life, working in a location-oriented, competence-oriented, participative, integrated and policy-oriented way. We are always looking for new opportunities and partnerships and enjoy sharing our expertise. Together with children, young people and partners, we are building the city of tomorrow.

Because the city is built on youth!

In Antwerp



Brussels



and Ghent



3,500 yearly activities for
children and young people



150 employees
and interns

500 volunteers
we can rely on



We offer support to
children and young people
between **6** and **35** years old

The city is our playground. Our working area. Our foundation.
Our guiding principle. Our positive view of urbanity is what
shapes us. The city and young people are our DNA.

Leisure time

The city is built on youth. This applies to their leisure time too. They should be able to be themselves and feel empowered. In addition to activities within our child, youth, teen, and young girls communities, we also set up projects that connect with children's and young people's **interests and living environment** such as sports, dance, games, music, etc. Young **newcomers** are also welcome to join in our various activities. JES offers certified training courses for young people who have been inspired to become a volunteer youth worker.



(Head) animator and instructor courses

We offer future volunteer youth workers certified animator, head animator and instructor courses across the three cities. Our courses are full of tips and tricks on how to make the most of a few urban challenges, such as diversity and less room for manoeuvre. After a successful traineeship, the participants receive **a certificate**. We also offer **step-up modules** for those who are still too young or not yet ready to follow an animator course.



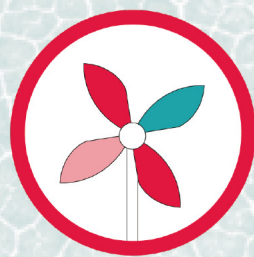
Multimedia

Those who wish to develop their digital skills can do so in both Brussels and Ghent. JES Brussels houses **Medialabo**, which offers workshops and media courses for children, youngsters, and youth workers. Our offer ranges from game development to digital storytelling. Youngsters with access to JES Ghent can benefit from STE(A)M (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) activities. JES Ghent's **Fab Lab** stimulates young people's digital skills using a laser cutter and heat press, among other things.

Music studio

JES Brussels and JES Antwerp offer young people the opportunity to experiment with music, the spoken word, slam poetry, rap etc. Studio employees invite enthusiastic youngsters, regardless of talent or experience, to experiment and discover their musical skills. In turn, young volunteers receive the necessary training to offer young people musical accompaniment.

JES Brussels offers young people the opportunity to share their studio journey with the outside world on the big stage at the **BIG in BXL Festival**, our annual youth arts festival, which gives the youngsters of Brussels between the ages of 14 and 20 the chance to put their talent in the spotlight.



Intake session and activities

In Brussels and Antwerp, JES organises **accessible and approachable** intake sessions for children and youngsters. JES Antwerp provides collaborative activities for children, girls and teens, whereas young people in Brussels can visit the Maritime District or the Cureghem centre.

JES Ghent is currently developing their support for newcomers, organising weekly activities to empower young newcomers in the city!

Neighbourhood participation

The JES Brussels youth participation team makes its mark on various areas in Brussels. They set up activities with children and young people in a public space and involve their young participants in the set-up. Also included in the activities are discussions with other users of the space, policymakers, designers and planners.

In Antwerp, too, we use several squares as a base for our activities. We organise youth work activities, but also hold discussions with young people and the authorities on how to restructure and use these public spaces.

In various neighbourhoods of Antwerp and Ghent, young volunteers are trained to become Square Patrons. These are youngsters who know these areas like the back of their hand. They are the first point of contact for children, young people, parents and other square users. As animators, they also take care of a broader youth work programme.

For the first time in Ghent, we are also investing in Mobile Youth Welfare. By visiting young people in their area, offering them a friendly ear and organising activities, we help them take ownership of their own neighbourhoods.





Volunteering

An amazing **500 young people** are currently committed to volunteering for JES. Together with these young volunteers, JES delivers a positive story to empower volunteers, neighbourhoods and the city itself. They do not only empower their city, but themselves too. Their commitment helps them develop their own abilities. By doing this, JES and young people join forces to build a strong and sustainable urban society together. After all:



THE CITY IS BUILT ON YOUTH!




JES for schools

Introductory programme

JES organises introductory work-study programmes in Brussels and Ghent for young people in part-time education who are not yet ready for an internship. For **two days a week**, young people work on developing professional competencies, such as perseverance and adapted communication.

NAFT

JES Ghent uses 'seamlessly flexible paths' (Naadloze Flexibele Trajecten - NAFT) to support young people who are in danger of dropping out because of welfare issues. NAFT helps strengthen young people's self-esteem to make them feel empowered and help them re-connect with school and their education.



Naft

Transition programmes

We prevent young people from dropping out of Vocational Secondary Education throughout our three main cities. By means of **individual coaching**, we help redirect young people to a new path, where they can get to know their strengths, regain the desire to take their educational career into their own hands and connect with a new type of education or job.

In addition, JES Ghent supports **early school leavers** by thoroughly preparing them for their internship. Together with schools and class groups, we find out what young people need to ensure a successful start to their internship.

Activities

JES Brussels offers **schools** a range of activities to discover the assets of our capital city. We encourage **pupils, teachers and parents** to take a look at their city with a different pair of eyes, using active and experiential methods. We introduce them to the city as a learning environment with a wide range of activities.



Welfare



Young people should feel supported and heard. JES workers are often **trusted figures** for them, who can offer a sympathetic ear. Children and young people with **welfare questions** therefore often come to them. Where necessary and possible, we provide an answer within the JES operation or refer to partners.

In Brussels, we actively engage in **outreach work**. Our street workers are the **feelers** of the city and offer approachable support. They visit young people in their natural environment - on the street, in squares, in cafes, in metro stations, etc. This all happens at the youngsters' own pace - their questions and values are our main focus. Our volunteers work both individually and in groups.

In Ghent, we offer activities through our **Mobile Youth Welfare Network**, empowering young people by visiting them in their neighbourhoods. From there, we build bridges to other areas of life. We also bridge the gap between youth work and welfare by guiding young people through activities to **OverKop Gent**, which focuses on the JES youth work method. This makes it easier, quicker and more welcoming for youngsters participating in our other activities to find their way to the OverKop House.





Education & employment

We work together with our youngsters to find a **training course, internship or job** that suits them. We use their own motivation as a starting point, building on that motivation to develop a customised coaching programme. During this process, we make the time to develop a **relationship of trust** with young people. For the coach and young person to know and trust each other – that is what is important to us at JES.

Individual coaching

Our coaches across the three cities motivate young people to take steps towards employment at their own pace. We focus on **place-based work and individual coaching of vulnerable youngsters and school leavers**. Proximity is our priority. We have developed a few initiatives tailored to women, for example. Our coaching sessions don't just take place at one central location. We are permanently present and active in several districts and neighbourhoods and also offer digital coaching. We also offer group workshops on the labour market.

Competency-building programmes

We encourage young people to **strengthen their competencies** using a range of competency screenings, sector orientation programmes, pre-training, further training and training modules for companies or training organisations. We emphasise the strengthening of soft skills – personal competencies that young people will be able to use throughout their entire career. We developed a wide range of **methods** for this purpose. We work systematically with partners or on behalf of partners to develop and organise these programmes.



Employers

JES keeps its finger on the pulse of employers. Together with them, we create **career opportunities for young people**. We organise job events, provide further training and share our expertise with employers.

JES Academy



We are only too happy to share the JES expertise we have attained in the field. We want to use this expertise to contribute to a better urban policy for children and young people. We view governments and organisations from different sectors as potential supporters.

The **JES Academy** is our centre of expertise. Here we show professionals how we work with young people in the areas of leisure, education, training, work and urbanity. The JES Academy offers a range of training courses, takes you on a tour of the city, provides inspirational talks and offers advice and coaching. Discover what we have to offer at jesacademy.be!



JES Sleep Inn

The JES Sleep Inn is the **JES accommodation centre** in Sint-Jans-Molenbeek. Offering 89 beds and located in an old industrial building between the historic centre of Brussels and Tour and Taxis, it is the ultimate base for both small and larger groups to experience urbanity.





JES

JONGEREN MAKEN DE STAD!

Building the city of tomorrow together

We can't do this on our own. Thanks to **collaborations** with volunteers and partners, we are building the city of tomorrow. You are not alone in the city. We therefore look for organisations that have the same goals and work just as enthusiastically as we do for the young urban population. We believe that working on projects together, tackling problems and engaging in co-productions creates a new wind of change. We grab any **prospect** of a new collaboration with both hands.

JES is supported by the Flemish Authorities, the VGC, VDAB, the City of Antwerp, the City of Ghent, Actiris, KBC, Flanders Tourism, Interreg, ESF and KBS.





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