

Royal Society of Edinburgh Young Academy of Scotland

Arts & Humanities Working Group

*Inside & Outside the Academy – building meaningful
relationships with communities*



The Dos And Don'ts Of Building Meaningful Relationships ...

Dos:-

- Keep in touch- it is easy to let things drift in a busy working life.
- Remember to keep everybody in the loop.
- Be brave and reach out to local groups and organisations – don't wait for them to come to you.
- Realise that your schedule is likely to be more flexible than theirs. Offer to go to them – don't think they should come to you.
- Think about how you can continue to work together- the relationship doesn't end when a particular project does.
- Do make yourself available to help communities to access resources they can't easily access on their own AND ask the same of them.

Don'ts:-

- Promise things you can't deliver.
- Get too carried away-stay focused on the task in hand.
- Don't presume that you know more than local people or groups.
- Don't presume you're going to save the day. That's never going to happen – that's not what a meaningful relationship is about.