# Welcome to Your Vote week

The Electoral Commission will be launching 'Welcome to Your Vote Week 2025' from 10 to 16 March. The theme this year is 'get informed and get involved'.

Milton Keynes Youth Council will be getting involved by supporting activities in their schools and local areas. MKYC will be sharing information on how young people in the city of Milton Keynes are shaping the way young people can have, and have been getting involved in politics to shape their futures. By encouraging all young people to take part in activities such as discovering who represents you in your local area, exploring the issues that matter most to you and others to making a positive impact in their community.

There are lots of ways you can 'Get informed and Get involved'......what will you do?

# Get Informed and Get involved

Discover ways to get **involved** in democracy in your local area to have your say?



#### You could...

- •Join your school council or attend your local youth council meeting or attend a debate group.
- •Connect with the Milton Keynes Youth Council: https://www.instagram.com/miltonkeynesyouthcouncil or scan MK Youth Council | Milton Keynes City Council and at MK Youth Council | Milton Keynes City Council to read minutes of our formal meetings and to see what we are doing.
- •Write to your local representatives to share your opinion or raise an issue in your local area at WriteToThem (Opens in new window)
- •Start a conversation with people at home or in your community and ask questions about the things that matter to you
- •Start or sign a petition on the <u>UK Government and Parliament website</u>
- •Plan a project to make a positive change in your local area or community
- Register to vote: if you're 16 or over: gov.uk/register-to-vote (Opens in new window)
- •You could visit the electoral commission website to find information and resources to learn more about democracy on topics

https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/resources/welcome-your-vote

# Get Informed and Get involved

### Discover ways you can get informed

#### You could...

- •Access trustworthy news sources such as Simple Politics (Opens in new window) or Full Fact (Opens in new window)
- •Explore how to navigate mis- and disinformation and fact check information online. A great place to start is <a href="Shout Out UK (Opens in new window)">Shout Out UK (Opens in new window)</a> or <a href="Other Side of the Story">Other Side of the Story</a> (Opens in new window)
- •Practice fact checking, what you read or hear on social media to word of mouth is not always factful. It's important to know the real facts.
- •Ask questions about issues that matter to you, what's being done or not done about them and by who.
- •Watch the annual sitting of UK Youth Parliament debate in the house of commons <u>UK Youth Parliament annual session 2025 UK</u> Parliament

#### The debated motions were:

- •16- and 17-year-olds should be allowed to vote in all elections and referendums, accompanied with more political education throughout school.
- •That the National Minimum Wage for every worker under 22 be raised, to match the National Living Wage for those over 22.
- •All public transport should be free for young people.
- •All young people in the UK must have access to a standardised level of political literacy and democratic education to improve engagement in politics on a local, national and international level to develop critical thinking skills.
- •To establish period dignity, there should be free, accessible, good quality period products available in public spaces for everyone.

What motion would you vote on and why?

### Videos:

https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/resources/resources-young-people/information-young-people#welcome-vote

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## Content to include:

- How to register to vote
- Attainers
- Democracy YLD