



What is the Welsh Youth Parliament?

This document was written by the **Welsh Youth Parliament**. It is an easy read version of '**What is the Welsh Youth Parliament**?'.

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How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. They have been explained in a box below the word.

Where the document says **we**, this means **The Welsh Youth Parliament**. For more information contact:

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About the Welsh Youth Parliament



This document is about the Welsh Youth Parliament.



We are the **Welsh Youth Parliament**. The Welsh Youth Parliament is a group of 60 young people aged between 11 and 18 years old. We stand up for the views of children and young people across Wales.



The Welsh Youth Parliament has 60 members. This is the same as the Welsh Parliament.



You can vote for 40 members of the Youth Parliament in the next **election** in November 2021.

An **election** is when people vote for someone they want to help, listen and work for them in politics.



The other 20 members will be voted for by partner organisations. This is to make sure there are people from different backgrounds in the Youth Parliament.



All 60 members have the same role and things they should do.



If you are aged between 11 up to 18 years and live or go to school or college in Wales, you can vote in the Youth Parliament election.



You can put yourself forward to be a member too!

Have your say

Welsh Youth Parliament members will take part for 2 year.



The 60 members will work together for 2 years to talk about issues that are important to young people in Wales.

The Welsh Youth Parliament will:



- Help young people to know their rights, think and talk about important issues.



- Listen to young people and understand what is important to them, and share this at the parliament.



• Work with people who make decisions to talk about issues and make changes for the better.

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Voting for the right person

You can vote for the person that will help and listen to you and other people in your area.



Wales is divided into 40 areas, these are called **constituencies**.



A **constituency** is the area where people live and vote for other people to listen to them and stand up for what they think, in parliament.



You can find out the name of the constituency where you live or go to school or college on this website: <u>senedd.wales/find-a-memberof-the-senedd</u>



This **constituency** is your part of Wales.



When you vote, you can choose 1 person that you want to listen to and help you and other people in your area.



Members of the Youth Parliament will work with the Welsh Parliament to talk about issues that young people have told them about.

About your constituency

Find out your constituency.

The **constituencies** in **North Wales** are:

- 1. Ynys Môn
- 2. Arfon
- 3. Aberconwy
- 4. Clwyd West
- 5. Vale of Clwyd
- 6. Delyn
- 7. Alyn and Deeside
- 8. Wrexham
- 9. Clwyd South
- 10. Dwyfor Meirionnydd
- 11. Montgomeryshire

The **constituencies** in **Mid Wales** are:

- 1. Ceredigion
- 2. Brecon and Radnorshire
- 3. Preseli Pembrokeshire
- 4. Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
- 5. Carmarthen East and Dinefwr

The constituencies in South-West Wales are:

- 1. Gower
- 2. Swansea West
- 3. Swansea East
- 4. Neath
- 5. Aberavon
- 6. Ogmore
- 7. Bridgend
- 8. Rhondda
- 9. Cynon Valley
- 10. Pontypridd
- 11. Vale of Glamorgan

The **constituencies** in **South-East Wales** are:

- 1. Cardiff West
- 2. Cardiff North
- 3. Cardiff Central
- 4. Cardiff South and Penarth
- 5. Merthyr and Rhymney
- 6. Blaenau Gwent
- 7. Torfaen
- 8. Monmouth
- 9. Caerphilly
- 10. Islwyn
- 11. Newport West
- 12. Newport East

About your vote

Your voice is powerful. Make sure it is heard.



You need to register to be able to vote. You need to give your email address, date of birth and your postcode.



The postcode can be of your home or your school or college. It will need to be in the **constituency** where you will vote.



If you registered to vote in the **Youth Parliament** election in 2018, you will not need to register again. You will get an email that tells you how to vote.

Voting will open on **1 November 2021**. It will close at **12pm on 22 November 2021**.



To vote, all you need to do is:

- register to vote
- give your details
- check your email to get your voting code
- vote

How does your vote help

Your vote is important so think carefully about it.



You will need to choose which person you want to vote for. From **18 October 2021**, you can read about each person on this website: <u>youthparliament.senedd.wales</u>



You need to read about each person and think about if they care about issues that are important to you.



They will focus on issues that affect your everyday life. Like education, health and the environment.



You can find out more about issues that the Welsh Parliament focus on here: <u>youthparliament.senedd.</u> <u>wales.</u>



The young person that gets the most votes will become a member of the Welsh Youth Parliament for your constituency for 2 years.

Once you have voted, you cannot change your mind.

What happens next?



You can tell people you voted in the Welsh Youth Parliament election! On social media use the hashtag **#welshyouthparliament**.



The Welsh Youth Parliament has different names on social media.



On Instagram and Facebook they are <u>@WelshYouthParliament</u>.



On Twitter they are <u>@WelshYouthParl</u>.



You will find out who has been elected to be in the Youth Parliament in **December 2021**.

Find out more



After the election, the 60 members of the Welsh Youth Parliament will decide what issues they will focus on for the next 2 years.



They will also think about how to work with lots of young people across Wales.



To stay up to date, you can follow Welsh Youth Parliament on social media.



You can also sign up to the newsletter on this website - <u>youthparliament.senedd.wales</u>.