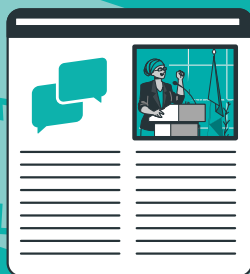


HOW CAN I BECOME A WELSH YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEMBER?





CONTENTS

Introduction

***What does it mean to be a Welsh Youth
Parliament Member?***

What support will I get?

How many meetings will I attend?

How do I put myself forward as a candidate?

Your election campaign

Data Protection

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I stood to be a member of the Welsh Youth Parliament because I'm committed to empowering young people and representing their views on the national stage on the issues that matter to them.

Jonathon Dawes
Welsh Youth Parliament Member
2018-2021



INTRODUCTION

DO YOU FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT MAKING SURE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE IN WALES HAVE THEIR SAY?

Why not put yourself forward as a candidate in the election? If you live in Wales, or receive your education in Wales, you can put yourself forward to become a Welsh Youth Parliament Member for one of the constituency seats.

If you receive your education in a different electoral constituency to your home address, you can choose which constituency you wish to stand for. It's possible to check your constituency by going to www.senedd.wales/find-a-member-of-the-senedd

You'll need to be at least 11 years old, and no older than 17 by the last day of the election which is the 22 of November 2021.

Applications open on the 5 of July 2021 and close on the 20 of September 2021.

If you are part of an organisation or group who become an official Welsh Youth Parliament partner organisation, you could be put forward by them too! This means you could have two chances to be elected. You can find out more about this on our website.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A WELSH YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEMBER?

***AS A WYPM YOU'LL BE PART OF A GROUP
OF 60 YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 11 AND UP
TO THE AGE OF 18 FROM ACROSS WALES.***

- You'll be a voice for young people in Wales at a national level,
- You'll empower Wales' young people to identify, raise awareness of and debate the issues important to them.
- You'll listen to young people in Wales, represent their views and act on the issues that are important to them.
- You'll help decide the Welsh Youth Parliament's priority issues.
- You'll raise awareness, and share information on what the Welsh Youth Parliament is doing about the issues they've raised.
- You'll help children and young people understand how the Senedd and the Welsh Youth Parliament work, and the impact they have on the lives of people in Wales.
- You'll work with, help and support other Welsh Youth Parliament Members.
- You'll meet key decision makers and talk about your work as part of the Welsh Youth Parliament.
- You'll shape the future of the Welsh Youth Parliament.
- You'll increase and develop the representation of young people in Wales in a new and positive way.
- You'll be given unique opportunities to take part in training, various events, and media engagements during your time as a Welsh Youth Parliament Member.

WHAT SUPPORT WILL I GET?

**YOU'LL BE SUPPORTED BY THE SENEDD
TO GET YOUR CAREER AS A WELSH
YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEMBER OFF TO
A GREAT START!**

Staff from the Senedd will be there to help and support you during your time at the Welsh Youth Parliament. They'll provide support and guidance, and will be a contact point for any help or advice you need about the Welsh Youth Parliament. They'll also give you regular updates and information about upcoming meetings and events.

The Senedd will cover any costs you incur related to you work with the Welsh Youth Parliament. These costs might include:

- authorised travel
- accommodation
- food
- attending activities arranged by the Senedd.

You'll receive training on everything you need to know about the Senedd and the Welsh Youth Parliament. You'll also be fully supported with training and guidance on any work you're part of with the Welsh Youth Parliament, and anything else you need help with along the way.

You'll also get clear guidance and training on policies which all Welsh Youth Parliament Members will need to follow.

HOW MANY MEETINGS WILL I ATTEND?

***THERE'LL BE 3 MEETINGS OF THE FULL
WELSH YOUTH PARLIAMENT DURING
YOUR TWO YEAR TERM.***

At these meetings all 60 Welsh Youth Parliament Members will come together to debate and vote on the issues important to young people in Wales. Where possible these meetings will take place at the Senedd.

Regional meetings and events will also be scheduled. Some of these meetings and events will take place face to face, others virtually. These meetings will be an opportunity for Welsh Youth Parliament to discuss and work on the key issues chosen for their two year term within your local area.

“

Where the actual Members of the Senedd sit we got to sit in their seats, where they normally give their speeches we got to give our speeches and where their voices are heard our voices were heard.

Jonathon Powell
Welsh Youth Parliament Member
2018-2021



HOW DO I PUT MYSELF FORWARD AS A CANDIDATE?

***APPLICATIONS OPEN ON THE 5TH OF
JULY 2021 AND CLOSE ON THE 20TH OF
SEPTEMBER 2021.***

The first step is to find out what it means to be a Welsh Youth Parliament Member. Make sure you read both the *What is the Welsh Youth Parliament?* and the *How can I become a Welsh Youth Parliament Member?* guide in full before completing your nomination.

Discuss putting your name forward as a candidate with a parent or carer. They can find out more about the role by reading our *Welsh Youth Parliament Guide for Schools, Colleges, Youth Workers, Parents, Guardians*. A parent or guardian will need to confirm that they are aware of your application. Then complete an application form. You can get this from www.youthparliament.wales. The form will take about 15 minutes to complete.

To apply, you'll need to provide the following information:

- Your name
- Your full address and post code
- Your email address
- Your date of birth

You'll also need to complete an equality form.

As part of the application, you'll need to provide a photo and short biography about yourself. If your application is successful, your photo and biography will be used during the election and posted on the Welsh Youth Parliament website for young people to get to know you and help them decide who to vote for.

Your biography should be 200 words or less. It should explain why you would be a good Welsh Youth Parliament Member.

You should also include the 3 issues that are most important to you. The issues need to be things that the Senedd has powers over such as health, Welsh language, youth provisions, the environment etc. More information about the Senedd's powers can be found on the Senedd's website www.senedd.wales.

More information about completing the application form can be found on our website www.youthparliament.wales.

YOUR ELECTION CAMPAIGN

ONCE YOU'VE NOMINATED YOURSELF AS A CANDIDATE, AND RECEIVED AN EMAIL CONFIRMING IF YOUR NOMINATION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL, YOUR NEXT JOB WILL BE TO CONVINC OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR CONSTITUENCY TO VOTE FOR YOU.

Resources will be available for you to download from www.welshyouthparliament.wales. Feel free to use them to help promote your candidacy.

If you are in school, college or member of a youth group make sure they know you are standing in the election so that they can help. There's information and resources for them on the website as well.



DATA PROTECTION

WE'VE PARTNERED WITH A COMPANY CALLED MI-VOICE WHO WILL BE SUPPORTING OUR ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTION SYSTEM.

All of the information you provide will be kept securely and won't be shared with anyone outside of Mi-Voice, the Senedd or the Welsh Youth Parliament.

For more information on how the Senedd will use your data, please read the full privacy notice on our website www.youthparliament.senedd.wales/privacy-policy/full-privacy-notice





WEBSITE: **WWW.YOUTHPARLIAMENT.WALES**

INSTAGRAM: **[WELSHYOUTHPARLIAMENT](https://www.instagram.com/welshyouthparliament)**

FACEBOOK: **[WELSHYOUTHPARLIAMENT](https://www.facebook.com/welshyouthparliament)**

TWITTER: **[WELSHYOUTHPARL](https://twitter.com/welshyouthparl)**

