



BRISTOL YOUTH ELECTIONS

2026

Elections for the Bristol City Youth
Council

Information and Application Pack

Young People Stand
Young People Vote
Young People
Represent





Introduction

In January 2026 young people across Bristol will take part in the Bristol Youth Elections to vote in young people to the Bristol City Youth Council for a two year term of office.

The young people that are voted in will represent the young people of Bristol and campaign on issue's that are important to the young people of Bristol.

The opportunity to stand as a candidate in the Bristol Youth Elections is open to all young people aged 11 - 18, living or going to school in Bristol.

The elections are divided into 3 areas: North, South and East Central, you can apply to stand in the area where you go to school or live.





What is my role on the Bristol City Youth Council?

The main aim of a young person on the Bristol City Youth Council is to represent the views of young people.

You would need to commit around 2 - 3 hours a week over the two year term of office. This is outside of school hours and can be flexible during exam times.

Examples of what you do on the youth council?

Attend Bristol City Youth Council Meeting twice a month.

Attend local area youth forums.

Meet with youth groups and youth forums.

Take part in development days.

Hold your youth led youth voice conference

Speak at full council and meeting with decision makers.

Take part in extra opportunities that you are passionate in.

Attend annual residentials and activities throughout the holidays.





If you are elected you will have the opportunity to:

- Have lots of fun and meet new friends
- Have lively debates
- Get involved in Democracy
- Gain increased confidence and self esteem
- Develop public speaking skills
- Make positive change for young people
- Raise the profile of young people and their issues
- Work with young people in your local area
- A chance to influence adult decision making
- Raise awareness of youth voice





Internal Roles on the Bristol City Youth Council

If you are elected onto the Bristol City Youth Council you will have the chance to stand for internal roles.

Chair & Deputy Chair

Facilitate, lead & represent the voice of the Bristol City Youth Council.



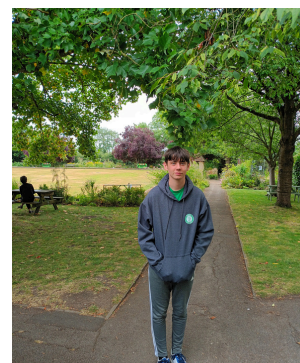
UK Youth Parliament

Represent the views of young people locally, regionally & nationally.
Take part in the annual House of Commons debate.
Attend regional meetings & residential



Community Leads

Have the lead within the area you represent
Take a lead for Area Youth Forums
Represent young people at community events
Feedback community issues to BCYC members



Media Reps

Create social media posts
Minute taking of meetings
Creating media for events
Creating newsletters





How to stand as a candidate and contact details

You can stand for election if you are under the age of 18 on the day of the election (13th February 2026).

1) Complete the 'Contact Details and Parental Consent form'.

2) Complete the Nomination form.

(Nomination Deadline 31st October 2025)

3) Attend a candidate workshop (dates, times are below)

4) Make a 1 minute (maximum) video clip, telling voters why you want to be a member of the Bristol City Youth Council and why they should vote for you.

5) Send all your information to the Participation Team by post or email.

If you have any questions please contact us.

Contact Details

Address: The Participation team, Family Help North, 40 - 44 Ridingleaze House,
Lawrence Weston, BS11 0QE

Email: ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk

Mobile: 07780486367

Website: <https://services.bristol.gov.uk/council/how-council-decisions-are-made/bristol-city-youth-council-and-youth-mayors/bristol-youth-elections>

Instagram: [@bristolcityyouthcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/bristolcityyouthcouncil)

Dates for your diary



Date	Event	Brief Description
Wednesday 1 st October 2025	Applications open	Throughout the month of October young people fill out application to stand in the Bristol Youth Elections.
Thursday 9 th October 2025 5.30pm - Arrival 6.00pm - 8.00pm Session	Candidate Workshop at City hall, College Green, Bristol,	Information workshop about what is the Bristol City Youth Council & how the youth elections work.
Thursday 23 rd October 2025	Repeat Candidate Workshop	As above
Friday 31 st October 2025	Application Closing Date	Last Day for applications to be received.
Thursday 13 th November 2025 5.30pm - 8.00pm	Video Footage Support Session City Hall	Session to provide support to make video if needed
Thursday 27 th November 2025 5.30pm - 8.00pm	Repeat Video Footage Support Session	As above
Friday 28 th November 2025	Deadline for video footage	
19 th - 30 th January 2026	Voting Period	Schools/Youth Organisation take part in voting
Thursday 22 nd January 2026 5.30pm - 8.00pm	Candidate Evening City Hall	Candidates to meet to see how voting is going and find out more info.
Friday 13 th February 2026 5.00pm - 9.00pm	Election announcement & Celebration Evening	Official announcement of the new Bristol City Youth Council & Celebration



Contact Details and Parental Consent Forms

Name	
Date of Birth	
Age	
Address	
Mobile Number/ Landline number	
Email Address	
School / College	
Youth Group	
The Workshop you would like to attend	Thursday 9th October 2025
	Thursday 23rd October 2025

Parental/Guardian Consent Statement (This must be the legal guardian/parental responsibility for a child looked after)

1) I give permission for (child/young person) to take part in the Bristol Youth Elections.

Please tick one

I give permission for photographs, videos and other recorded information of my child to be used in publicity materials for the project/service

I do not give permission for photographs, videos and other recorded information of my child to be used in publicity materials for the project/service

Parent/Guardian signature:.....

Date:.....

BCYC Candidate Nomination Form

This will be used to make your manifesto that we send out to schools and youth groups. Please can you try to keep to the word count.



<p>I am standing as a candidate for the Bristol City Youth Council because:</p> <p>(80 word max)</p>		
<p>Please state <u>1 top issue</u> that you feel is important to young people:</p> <p>(80 word max)</p>		
<p>Please can you tell us how you would represent & get the views of other young people.</p> <p>(80 word max)</p>		
<p>If I was elected I would want to represent</p> <p>Please tick</p>	<p>The area where I live</p>	
	<p>The area where I go to school / college</p>	
	<p>I'm not sure, can someone help me</p>	

Please send this form to:

The Participation Team, Family Help North, 40 - 44 Ridingleaze, Lawrence Weston, BS11 0QE **OR**
 ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk before the closing date Friday 31st October 2025