

# Introduction

In January 2024 young people in schools, colleges and youth organisations across Bristol will be voting 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 young people of Bristol and their views to adult decision makers, such as the Mayor, Councillors, Council Officers, Members of Parliament, and also campaign on issue's that are important to the young people of Bristol. This is called the **Bristol Youth Vote 2024**.

The opportunity to stand as a candidate in the Bristol Youth Vote is open to all young people aged 11 to 18 years, living in or going to school in Bristol. You can stand for election if you are under the age of 18 on the day of the election (9th February 2024).

The Council divides Bristol into 3 geographical areas North, South, and East Central. Each area will vote and elect their Bristol City Youth Council (BCYC) representatives. Young people will be elected across the city for a two-year term of office.



# What are the roles of elected representatives?

The most important aspect of any elected representative's role is to make sure you represent the views of young people. You would need to commit around 2-3 hours a week on average over the two-year term of office. These hours will mainly be outside school time and will be flexible around exam times.

- Attend Bristol City Youth Council meetings twice a month.
- Attend local area forums
- Meet with youth groups and youth forums to tell them what you are doing and to find out their opinions on youth issues
- Join campaigns groups
- Take part in training sessions
- Elect the four members of UK Youth Parliament
- Meet with the Mayor, local Councillors, and other decision makers like Council officers to influence the decisions they are taking



## 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 changes for young people
- Raises the profile of young people in a positive way
- Working with young people in your local area
- A chance to influence adult decision makers
- Get accredited learning (Certificates)
- Raise awareness of young people's issues
- Attend a residential



# UK Youth Parliament

If you are elected onto the Bristol City Youth Council you will have the opportunity to stand to become a member of UK Youth Parliament (UKYP). Four UKYP representatives will be voted in by the newly elected Youth Council Members. If you would like to stand as a UKYP representative there will be a secret ballot to decide who will be the UKYP representatives for Bristol.

## UK Youth Parliament

If you are elected as a UK Youth Parliament representative, in addition to the BCYC commitments, you will:

- 1) Take the views from Bristol's young people to regional meetings held three times a year.
- 2) Attend a regional residential.
- 3) Attend a National Annual conference with other young UKYP reps from across the UK.
- 4) Take part in the annual House of Commons debate





## 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 ( 9th February 2024).

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

### **(Nomination deadline 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023)**

- 3) Attend a candidate workshop (dates, times are below).
- 4) Make a 1 min (MAXIMUM) Video or Voice clip, telling voters what your campaign topic is and why they should vote for you. Ask your teacher or youth worker or the Participation and Involvement team if you need help with making the clip.
- 5) Send all your information to the Participation and Involvement Team by post or email. If you have any questions, please contact us.
- 6) If you are elected and wish to stand as a member of UK Youth Parliament or Youth Mayors, please let us know

Address:

Families in Focus North, Participation Team  
40 – 44 Ridingleaze, Lawrence Weston, BS11 0QE

Email: [ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk)

Mobile: 07780486367/07500954065

Website : [www.bristol.gov.uk/youthcouncil](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/youthcouncil)  
(You can download documents from here too)

Twitter: @BristolCYC

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event	Brief Description
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023 6.00pm to 8pm</b>	Candidate workshop at City Hall College Green Bristol BS1 5TR	Information workshop about UKYP and BCYC. Opportunity to ask questions. A picture of each candidate taken. You can do film/voice clip after session if required.
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 6.00 pm to 8pm</b>	Repeat candidate workshop	As above
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023</b>	Nomination Closing Date	Last day for 'nomination' and 'contact details and parental consent' forms to be received.
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 10am to 4pm</b>	Video footage support session	Session to provide support to make video if required.
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 10am to 4pm</b>	Repeat Video footage support session	As above
<b>30<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b>	Deadline for video footage from candidates	

<b>15<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>	BYV Voting period	Schools/Colleges and Youth Organisations to take part in voting
<b>Thursday 18th January 2024 6pm to 8pm</b>	Area candidate evening at City Hall College Green Bristol BS1 5TR	For candidates to meet to see how voting is progressing in their schools/clubs
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 5 pm to 9 pm</b>	Election Announcements and internal election of UKYP reps and Youth Mayors	Announcement of election results

Name	
Date of Birth	
Age	
Address	
Mobile Number	
Land line number	
Email Address	
School	
College	

Youth Group		
The Workshop you would like to attend	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	(Please Tick as appropriate)
	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	(Please Tick as appropriate)

**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 Big Youth Vote.

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:.....

Please send this form to Families in Focus North, Participation and Involvement Team, 40 – 44 Ridingleaze, Lawrence Weston, BS11 0QE. or [ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk)

## Contact Details and Parental Consent Form BCYC Candidate Nomination Form

This will be used to make a PowerPoint slide that we send out to schools and youth groups. Please can you try to keep to an 80 word maximum for each section.

<p>I am standing as a candidate for the Bristol City Youth Council because.....</p> <p>(80 word max)</p>	
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<p>Please state the <b>1 top issue</b> that you feel is important to young people.</p> <p>(80 word max)</p>		
<p>Please can you tell us how you would represent &amp; 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) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></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 with this</p>	

Please send this form to:

Families in Focus North, Participation and Involvement Team, 40 – 44 Ridingleaze, Lawrence Weston, BS11 0QE or [ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:ywparticipation@bristol.gov.uk) by **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.**