

Teacher notes:

- The candidate review and voting will take around 20 minutes. Slides 2-6 provide a background context, which can be used for a full lesson.
- This resource can form a full lesson, or one-two registration periods, or an assembly and a registration period, as preferred.
- If you only have a short time, please skip straight to Slide 7, explain the election, and complete the vote.
 - If phones or laptops are allowed, young people can vote individually.
 - Alternatively, you can tally up votes using paper voting or hands-up voting, and then input the number of votes for each candidate.
- Please check in advance if your school/college is in East or West Surrey (see slides 9-12 if unsure)

Additional resource:

- If you have time, feel free to expand discussions to suit your needs, and you can use this link to show students [this clip of two of our Surrey MYPs](#) speaking in Parliament in November!

What is democracy?

- Use these clues to help you write a definition of 'democracy':



- Challenge: can you work out what the root words mean?
 - Demos (dem-) – other words with this root include 'demographic', 'epidemic', 'demonstration'
 - Kratos (-ocracy) – can you think of other words with this suffix?

What is democracy?

- The Greek words 'demos' and 'kratos' mean 'people' and 'power'.
- **Democracy** can be thought of as '**power of the people**'.
- In countries where you can vote freely, you have democracy.

Have your say and elect
your representative today!

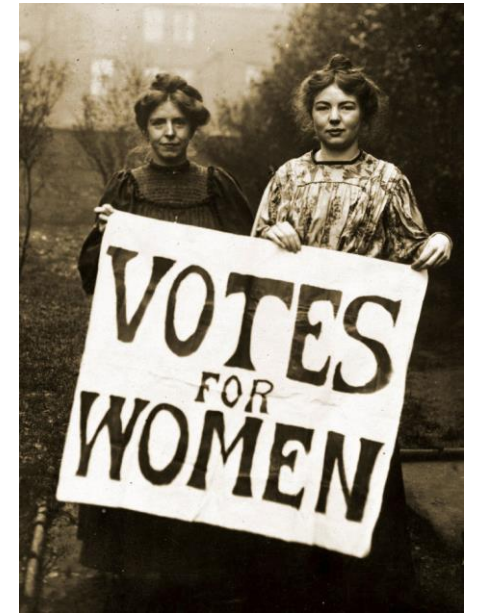
Why is it important to vote?

- Think of three reasons why people should use their right to vote.
- Challenge: Think of 2 influential people or groups who helped to get us all the right to vote!



Why is it important to vote?

- Your voice gets heard.
- You can influence the outcome of the election.
- Politicians can address issues important to you – vote for the ones you support.
- The people in power decide how money gets spent – have your say in where that money goes!
- It gives you the opportunity to make change.
- And many more reasons!



So, how can you make a difference?

- You can't vote in elections until you are 18 in the UK – though soon that will change to 16!
- However, you can already vote in youth elections.
- Today you can vote for your next Member of Youth Parliament and share your views on important topics.





What is the UK Youth Parliament?

- The UK Youth Parliament is made up of youth MPs.
- They do not belong to political parties
- They represent your views, and try to make change on behalf of young people.

How do you vote?

- We have 7 Member of Youth Parliament seats in Surrey, and 16 candidates: 10 for East Surrey, and 6 for West Surrey.
- Review all the candidates for your area and then vote for the one who you feel will best represent you!



Meet your East Surrey candidates! Part 1

Aisha:

- Public transport
- Community and youth activities

Chloè:

- Crime and safety
- Financial education
- Inclusive education

Ellie:

- Regulating AI in the arts
- Public transport
- Youth opportunities and careers

Em:

- Community engagement
- Access to nature
- Financial and careers education

Jasper:

- Environment
- Crime and safety
- Free school meals

East Surrey candidates represent:

Elmbridge, Epsom and Ewell, Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley, Tandridge

Meet your East Surrey candidates! Part 2

Joseph:

- Youth empowerment through communications skills
- Public transport

Sadie:

- Safety for women and girls
- Safer youth spaces
- Safe and healthy homes

Scarlett:

- Better funding for education
- Mental health support
- Tackling violence against women and children

Tom:

- Public transport
- Mental health support

Vaibhav:

- Public transport
- Mental health support

East Surrey candidates represent:

Elmbridge, Epsom and Ewell, Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley, Tandridge

Meet your West Surrey candidates!

Sara:

- Crime and safety
- Period dignity
- Social media and online safety

Domenik:

- Crime and safety
- Financial education
- Inclusive education

Emma:

- Regulating AI in the arts
- Public transport
- Youth opportunities and careers

Erin:

- Community engagement
- Access to nature
- Financial and careers education

Misha:

- Environment
- Crime and safety
- Free school meals

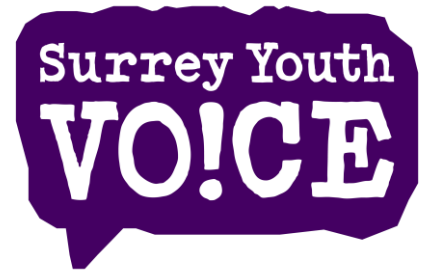
Myra:

- Financial education
- Public transport
- Mental health support
- Accessibility and inclusion

West Surrey candidates represent:

Spelthorne, Runnymede, Surrey Heath, Woking, Guildford, Waverley

Want to find out more about the candidates?



You can watch their speeches here:

- [East Surrey candidates](#)
- [West Surrey candidates](#)



We also want to know what is important to you!

- After voting for your preferred MYP candidate, you will also be able to vote for a topic that you feel is really important.
- Surrey Youth Council will then develop projects and campaigns to improve the most popular topic areas.
- Have a look at the topics on the next slide!



Topics: Part 1

Education and Learning, including accessibility, curriculum, and preparing for adulthood



Politics, including democracy, local government, elections, and international relations



Health and Wellbeing including mental health, physical health, and access to health services



Rights, Equalities, Communities and Culture including disability, LGBTQ+, and minority ethnic communities



Jobs, Economy and Benefits including jobs, the cost of living, and understanding welfare benefits



Crime and Safety including emergency services, youth/police relations, violence against women and girls, and online safety



Topics: Part 2

Arts, Media and Sport including access to the arts, sports facilities, hobbies and activities, and media literacy



Climate Change and the Environment including waste, water pollution, green spaces and land use, energy, and green skills



Transport including accessibility, affordability, travel apps



Youth Work and Young People's Services including youth clubs and facilities, social and quiet spaces, and the social care system



Housing including affordability, renters' rights, health and safety, and student accommodation



Which topic matters the most to you?

Time to vote!

If you are interested in joining a participation group, look on our [website](#), or follow us on social media:

@ourvoicesurrey (Instagram)
Surrey Youth Voice (Facebook)
@surreyyouthvoice (YouTube)

