

Isle of Wight Youth Council and Member of UK Youth Parliament **2022 to 2024**

Candidate Information and Application Pack

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Important information to consider:

All Youth Council and member of Youth Parliament activities are non-political.

Candidates can stand for the area they live, study or work in, and any group of Y.P they would like to represent.

Youth Council meetings are held either online or at County Hall, Newport. Typically meetings will take place on a Thursday though the group are entitled to vote to change this.

First meeting: Thursday 28th April 5pm – 7pm

Subsequent meetings will be monthly, to be confirmed at this first meeting.
(Bus fare can be refunded. If own transport is used, refunded to the value of the equivalent bus fare. If bus service or alternative is not available, taxi may be provided)

It is hoped the elected Youth MP will participate in key British Youth Council events:

Throughout April there will be an induction programme to inform youth MPs about everything they will need to know.

(Participation fees and travel costs are provided)

Where/ Who do you feel you could represent? (Please tick all that apply)

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Cowes Town | | Carisbrooke College | |
| Ryde Town | | Medina College | |
| Sandown Town | | The Bay CE School (Secondary Site) | |
| Ventnor Town | | Cowes Enterprise College | |
| Freshwater Town | | Ryde Academy | |
| Newport Town | | Ryde School | |
| Shanklin Town | | Island Free School | |
| Yarmouth Town | | Christ the King College | |
| East Cowes Town | | IOW College | |
| Rural Towns | | Training Providers | |
| Children with Health Issues | | Not in Education, Employment or Training | |
| Young Offenders | | Home Educated | |
| Ethnic Minorities | | St Georges School | |
| Young Carers | | LGBTQ | |
| Any other area considered important to young people | | Children in Foster Care | |

Election Dates

| | |
|--|--|
| Tuesday 1 st February | Application form available online. |
| Monday 28 th February | Closing date for candidate submissions |
| Tuesday 1 st March | Candidates formally announced campaigning begins |
| 21 st to 28 th March | On-line voting |
| March 31st | Results announced |
| 7 th April | Youth council induction |
| Thursday 28 th April | First official meeting |

Introduction

Would you like to become a Youth Councillor or UK Member of Youth Parliament and help make changes that will benefit young people on the Isle of Wight?

What is the Isle of Wight Youth Council?

The Isle of Wight Youth Council is a group of up to 30 young people aged between 11 and 21 years, resident on the Island. Additionally other young people can be invited to join the group. The Youth Council will elect its own Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, and Communications Officer and will be supported by an Isle of Wight Council Officers.

The purpose of the Isle of Wight Youth Council (IWYC) is to work on behalf of young people of the Isle of Wight, in co-operation with the Isle of Wight Council, to increase young people's influence over issues and decisions, which concern young people.

What is a Member of Youth Parliament?

Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) are elected in every part of the UK. There are currently hundreds of MYPs. You need to be aged between 11 and 18 to be a Member of the Youth Parliament.

Once elected MYPs may get involved in a variety of issues by meeting with the Island's MP and local councillors, taking part in campaigns and debates, making speeches and ensuring the views of young people are listened to by decision makers.

The most important aspect of any MYP's job is to make sure they represent the views of the young people in their constituency. Any MYP can set up a campaign, and any young person can support it and make a difference.

What experience do you need?

You don't need any experience to become an Isle of Wight Youth Councillor or MYP. You just need:

- Passion
- Commitment
- A desire to make a difference to young peoples' services
- The ability to listen to all young people
- To be able to communicate with a wide variety of people
- Have ideas about what can be done

What is involved in being a Youth Councillor or MYP? You need to attend regular meetings and training events as follows:

- Attendance at meetings
- Isle of Wight Council Committee meetings as required.
- Training events and conferences as appropriate.
- Listen to young people on the Island;
You will need to meet with and talk to young people. Most importantly, you will need to listen to the opinions of young people, even those who you would not normally talk to.
- Represent the views of young people. Your views are important, but you will also have to represent other young people and their views, even if you don't agree with them.
- Ensure the representation of those young people who have been excluded from school.

- Some young people are not able to put their views across very well. This may be because of a disability, a language barrier or just not being able to find the right words. It is your job to speak up for everyone.
- When attending meetings or representing the Youth Council, or in the role of MYP, you will be in a position of authority. You will therefore need to behave in a professional and responsible manner.

Why become an Isle of Wight Youth Councillor or MYP?

Becoming a Youth Councillor or MYP will give you opportunities to:

- Represent young people and give their views at public meetings.
- Raise the profile of young people in your area.
- Learn more about your community.
- Attend training courses and conferences as appropriate.
- Gain valuable experience and life skills which can be added to your CV when you are applying for work or training in the future.
- Learn about local government and the decision making process.
- Become involved in community work.

1. How do I apply?

Read all the information in this pack to make sure you know what will be involved and expected of you before you decide that you want to apply.

2. Complete the following forms in this pack:

- Application form.
- Medical consent form.
- Photograph consent.
- Manifesto

If you are under 16, your parent/guardian will need to read this information as well, because their signature is needed on both the medical and photograph consent forms.

You will need to complete all the forms and return them to the address below by **19.00hrs on Monday 28th February 2022.**

All forms need to be returned to:

Stephen Woodford,
Children's Rights and Participation Officer,
Isle of Wight Council, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 1UD

Or

Email youth.council@iow.gov.uk

How long will I stand for?

Candidates elected to the Youth Council or as the Member of Youth Parliament and deputy will stand for two years. It is appreciated that people's circumstances can change, and some members may wish to step down within this two year period. If the Member for Youth Parliament stands down, the deputy will be offered the position.

Isle of Wight Youth Council and MYP Elections 2022 to 2024

Application Form

To be filled in by the young person wishing to be part of the Isle of Wight Youth Council or stand as MYP or Deputy.

I wish to stand as Youth Councillor ()*
(Candidates can stand for the area they live in) (* Please tick or delete as applicable)

for thearea,

and* / or* as a Member of Youth Parliament ()*

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Age:

Date of Birth:

Ethnicity:

Mobile number:

Email:

Please say which is your preferred way to be contacted:

Name of School / College / Youth Group / other, which you attend:

Do you consider yourself to have a disability?

Signed..... Date.....

Please note: As the applicant, you will need to supply and have your photo taken for publicity purposes. Please ensure the photo consent form is signed – we cannot accept your nomination form unless the consent form has been signed.

Confidentiality: All information provided on this form will be kept confidential and used for the purposes of youth council/MYP work only.

Medical Consent Form

To be filled in by the young person wishing take part in the Isle of Wight Youth Council or the parent/guardian if under 16.

Name of parent/guardian:

Name of young Person:

Address if different to the child:

Mobile phone no:

Emergency contact name:

Emergency contact number.....

Name and address of young person's doctor

.....

Provide details of any medical conditions.....

.....

Provide details of any medication being taken.....

.....

Provide details of any dietary needs or food allergies, including symptoms

.....

Please provide details of any other needs or requirements:

.....

Declaration: I the parent/guardian of the above named young person and having legal responsibility for this young person, give permission for him/her to take part in the Isle of Wight Youth Council. I have received full details. I fully understand the nature of the Youth Council and give my permission for him/her to receive any necessary emergency medical treatment if required whilst attending an event.

Print Name:.....

Signed: Date:

Confidentiality: All information provided on this form will be kept confidential and used for the purposes of youth council/MYP work only.

Isle of Wight Council Youth Elections and MYP 2022 to 2024 **Photograph / Videos / Voice Recordings Consent Form**

To be filled in by the young person wishing take part in the Isle of Wight Youth Council or the parent/guardian if under 16.

Please note: The applicant, will need to supply and have photos / Videos /Voice recordings taken for publicity purposes. Please ensure this photo consent form is signed –We cannot accept the nomination form until this consent form has been signed.

Confidentiality: All information provided on this form will be kept confidential and used for the purposes of youth council/MYP work only.

Name of young person:

Name of parent / guardian:

I understand that this image will only be used in connection with the work of the Youth Council and the MYP and in the following ways:

- Electronic and printed information
- Displays and exhibitions
- Campaigns or related areas

I understand that this image will **not** be used for:

- Anything under the Isle of Wight Councils control which may be viewed as negative in tone, or that may cause offence, embarrassment or distress.

**Having read the above statements, do you give consent for images to be used?
(Please tick the appropriate box)**

YES, I give my consent for images to be used (---)

NO, I do not give my consent for images to be used ()

Signature

Relationship to the young person (If applicant is under 18):

Date

Writing your Manifesto

In order to promote yourself as a candidate for either the Youth Council or Member of Youth Parliament you need to tell people about yourself, which school/education establishment you attend and/or job you do, the general area you live in (e.g. 'Cowes'; do not give your address) your interests, what is important to you, and the difference you want to make if elected to the Isle of Wight Youth Council or as a member of Youth Parliament for the Isle of Wight.

In order to help you do this we put together the following template which, once you have completed, will become your manifesto.

The text on the template is there to help suggest the type of information you should put under each heading please delete this guidance text as you complete the template.

You can stand as a candidate for both Youth Council and MYP elections or just one of the two. Please make sure you indicate clearly in your manifesto which you are standing for so voters know what they are voting for you to do.

The manifestos will all be published together so voters can compare the candidates.

You may like to print off your manifesto and hand it out around your school or promote yourself as a candidate by speaking at year assemblies, full assembly or other school meetings.

Please email George Brading at youth.council@iow.gov.uk if you would like to discuss your ideas to promote yourself as a candidate.

Candidate Photograph

To help potential voters identify the candidates, you are recommended to submit a photograph which can then be added to your manifesto.

The photograph should be head and shoulders, and have been taken recently.

If mailing your application please attach the photograph, or if emailing, please send as a JPEG

Introducing yourself

You can write up to 200 words about yourself. Tell people about 'you', which school/education establishment you attend and/or job you do, the general area you live in (e.g. 'Cowes'; do not give your address) your interests, what is important to you.

What is important to young people on the Island?

What are the three main things you think are important to young people in your area.

What would I want to achieve?

What is the one main thing you would hope to achieve if elected?

Why vote for me?

Sum up in one or two sentences why people should vote for you.

Additional information / continuation sheet