



BE A CANDIDATE  
ELECTIONS 2019



WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

**Be a candidate**

**Kent Youth County Council Elections**  
**11<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

kent youth county council  
**kycc**

# Who are KYCC?

- KYCC stands for Kent Youth County Council.
- KYCC voice the views and opinions of young people aged 11-18 living, working or being educated in Kent.
- KYCC work on local and national campaigns to ensure young peoples' voices are heard.
- KYCC are elected in November by the young people in Kent.



# How does it work?

- Young people are elected from all 12 districts of Kent from those candidates that have registered for the elections.
- Each of the districts vote for their choice of new members during the elections at schools and youth projects and 4 members and 4 deputy members are elected in each district.
- Additionally young people are elected to community seats (from minority community groups).
- Last year over 20,000 young people aged 11 – 18 years voted for their KYCC representatives.



# Who can stand as a candidate?

- You can stand if you live, work or are educated in Kent and are aged 11-18 years.
- You don't need any previous experience but need to be keen to get involved and help change services and resources for young people in Kent.
- When elected you will represent the young people of your district and work to improve provisions for them in the county.



# District or Community candidates



- District candidates are any 11-18 year old that lives, works or is educated in Kent and they stand as a candidate in one of the 12 districts of Kent.
- Community candidates are any 11-18 year old that represent a minority sector of the community in Kent.
- Once elected there is no difference between the elected members whether they were registered as district or community.
- Young people will be elected as either a Member or Deputy Member seat. Members will be elected for a 2 year term and Deputies for 1 year. Members will be the top 4 voted candidates in each area and Deputies will be candidates elected with lower votes.

KYCC work on three campaigns every year. Last November the following three campaigns were voted in by young people across Kent:

- Curriculum for life
- Mental Health
- Anti-Bullying
- Developing emotional Resilience



# Mental Health Campaign

This year we focused on helping Headstart with the Big conversation to present and ensure it is an enjoyable time for everyone present. We have also been focusing on raising awareness on different weeks and days in a month such as World Mental Health Week, Autism and Stress Awareness week instead of working on one big project. Alongside that we are in the stages of making a 2020 Mental Health calendar which has all of the dates of important days in 2020 to be released to schools in Kent.

We have just started planning for World Mental Health day and what we would like to do this year for the event. So far we have been looking at what people would like to do in their schools and workplaces. Keep an eye out on our social media pages for updates ready for the 10<sup>th</sup> October this year!



# Curriculum for life campaign

The Curriculum for Life group aims to reform the PSHE curriculum to provide pupils with the key skills and education they need to succeed in later life. We carried out a survey of pupils across Kent to underline the poor quality of PSHE education in schools and to find the topics that pupils wanted to learn about most, resulting in mainly political, financial and career-based education. Using this information, we are in the process of creating content for schools to use, including powerpoints.

The group is also collating a list of key speakers, groups and charities that could come into schools to give presentations, incl. practical First Aid courses, to truly engage pupils and provide clear information or topics that many teachers do not have the knowledge or expertise to provide. The group is contacting schools across Kent to highlight the urgency of reforming their PSHE curriculums and supporting them with content, as well as contacting key decision-makers, including parish councils and the Kent County Council, to gain support for this campaign. We aim to provide change so that pupils are not taught the same tedious topics every year, and cover other essential areas that we feel are much needed.



# Anti-Bullying campaign

The anti - bullying campaign group have outlined their plans for the rest of this year. This included a blog with 6 sections looking at definitions of bullying and what we can do to help prevent bullying, reviews on books and websites that address bullying, cyber bullying, mental and physical bullying.

The group are also creating 3 videos to go hand in hand with the creation of a hashtag #thisneedstostop. The group also got some feedback on the Anti-bullying Detox booklet that was recently produced and sent out to schools. Judd school in Tonbridge feedback that it is a great resource and the Assistant head teacher is looking forward to sharing it with her students.



# Developing resilience for Mental health campaign

This is a new campaign group this year supporting mental health of young people in conjunction with Headstart Kent.

The group have been looking at different aspects of resilience and the impacts it could have on young people. A list of topics have been delegated to members of the group to research further.

A PowerPoint presentation is being planned by the members of the group along with resources for schools to use in assemblies to raise awareness and support for developing resilience.



# What else do KYCC Members do?

Not only do KYCC members work on the three campaigns elected by Kent's young people each year they also...

- Work in project groups which cover topics from transport, environmental issues, promoting equality, tackling racist and religious discrimination, positive stories etc.
- Elect 7 KYCC members and up to 7 Deputy members to represent Kent at UK Youth Parliament members and attend national meetings.
- Take part in debates, meetings with KCC Members & other decision makers.



# KYCC recent achievements

- **Debating in the House of Commons**

Every year our elected UK Youth Parliament members get to attend the House of Commons for a day for debating.

In Nov 2018 our current Chair Eleanor Burnaby-Rouse was chosen to close the debate for Mental health and spoke at the dispatch box in front of principal MP's.



- **Parliament week 2019 – Votes at 16 debate**

KYCC Member Elena Ewence co-ordinated and chaired a debate on votes for 16 year olds as part of UK Parliament week with Young people and a panel including Helen Grant MP and KCC Cabinet Member Shellina Prendergast.



- **National Award Winner Jess Griffiths**

KYCC Member Jess Griffiths won the National British Youth Council Youth Star Award recognising her personal development through her involvement in youth voice activities- including KYCC.





- Interested? We would love you to register!
- Go to [www.kent.gov.uk/kycc](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kycc)
- Register as either a district or community candidate on elections page
- Tell your friends about KYCC
- Register your school or youth organisation

# More information



**Don't forget**

**All registrations need to be received by Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**Visit our website and follow us on social media for more information**

**[www.kent.gov.uk/kycc](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kycc)**



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