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Kent Youth County Council Update

January 2020

Anti—Bullying Campaign

The anti-bullying group has had a busy 2019 developing and creating a number of YouTube videos to raise awareness of the damage of bullying for both the bully and those being bullied and highlighted ways to support and help all affected. The group also produced an anti-bullying detox booklet with exercises for use in schools and youth organisations. Following the November elections Anti-bullying has not been elected as a campaign for KYCC for 2020 but will still continue as a smaller project group and schools are still able to continue the anti-bullying training and gain certificates for this. All the resources for training are on the website as detailed at the bottom of the page.



Curriculum for Life Campaign

Curriculum for Life campaign has begun creating a price list of speakers and outside companies that schools may wish to use within their Curriculum for Life lessons, using these as a basis for schools that may need some KYCC funding for costly activities. We have also compiled a toolkit of lesson plans on each topic, along with a list of 10 Kent schools and their contact details to trial the subsidisation form on. We have already begun to contact some speakers and first aid groups and have been promised large discounts due to our cause! Our group has recently grown to around 50 young people and we have split this into content and outreach, with content focusing on creating emails and outreach on forming a website and sending out the emails.

Developing resilience in young people campaign

In the developing emotional resilience campaign at the December meeting we showed new members what our group is about and explained what resilience is, what affects it and how it can be tackled. In our January meeting we were sorting out what we should have in the HeadStart 'Big Conversation' and filtering out what we don't need and what would cater to the young people coming, this also includes fun merchandise and items that will be fun, we hope to create an enjoyable experience for everyone who will be attending on Wednesday 18th March!



Mental Health Campaign

Over the last year we have worked on a range of different tasks such as helping planning and delivery of the Big Conversation at the start of last year. We have completed our 2020 Mental Health Calendar which you should soon see being advertised! We also worked on different weeks over the year such as World Mental Health Week, Autism and Stress awareness week instead of working on one large project. We have also created a survey concerning which apps young people may use to help with their Mental Health which is slowly being shared around schools and youth organisations. This past year we have worked well and have had a successful year of projects and presentations too such as when we developed a presentation for World Mental Health Day. Keep an eye out on our social media pages when we reveal our objectives for the upcoming year!"



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Other KYCC news...

KYCC elections — 11– 24th November 2019

A big thank you to all of you that took part in the recent November Kent Youth County Council elections either as a polling station or by voting. This year we had 78 candidates stand for election in the 12 districts of Kent as well as community specific seats we also had 85 polling stations across the county mainly in schools and youth organisations. Across these polling stations and online we received a total of 21,059 votes, this is a slight increase on the 2018 voting numbers.

The top three issues voted for by young people in Kent as important to them have been selected as:

- Mental health support
- Environmental protection and awareness
- Curriculum for life—skills for life

These 3 issues will become our campaigns for Kent Youth County Council for 2020.

The newly elected members attended their first meeting on 14th December and joined existing members to see how KYCC is structured and got to know County Hall, Maidstone. We are now planning a residential weekend at the end of January for the new members to start the campaign work and get to know each other better so we look forward to another successful productive year. A big welcome to all new members we hope you have a great year and get involved in lots of opportunities and help to improve the lives of fellow young people in Kent. To keep up with what KYCC are doing visit our website at www.kent.gov.uk/kycc



KYCC annual awards

At our final Kent Youth County Council meeting of the year on 14th December we presented awards to our current members for standing in positions of responsibility over the past year as well as for a number of awards as voted for by other members for titles such as hardest working member, Best newcomer, Most professional member, most dedicated to a cause.

We also sadly said goodbye to some members who ended their term with KYCC including our Chair Eleanor Burnaby- Rouse who won loads of awards for her amazing commitment. We would like to thank all previous members for their hard work and wish them well in the future.

BYC House of Commons event



On Friday 8th November Kent's elected UK Youth Parliament members attended the annual House of Commons event organised by the British Youth Council where young people from all over the UK debate the top issues for young people from the green benches. Kent was very lucky that 3 of our members got to speak to the room and we are very proud of their professionalism and passion. (Pictures of Kyle, Alex & Poppy)

Poppy Mansfield Jones attended the event and wrote:

The UKYP trip to the House of Commons was a wonderful experience. We set off early and when we arrived we were greeted with tea and pastries in Westminster Hall - meeting with other members of the UKYP. Once we got into the House of Commons

we were greeted by Lindsay Hoyle and began the day of debating. Alex McGovern spoke at the dispatch box, Holly Leggett spoke on Curriculum for Life and I spoke on Environmental Protection and The winning topic Protecting the Environment was chosen after a UKYP vote.



For more information on Kent Youth County Council contact us at:

Web: www.kent.gov.uk/kycc
Email: kycc@kent.gov.uk

Or follow us on Facebook or Twitter

