

SYP ELECTIONS 2026



EASY READ



SYP ELECTIONS 2026

CONTENTS

About this webpage	4
Register as a candidate	6
Becoming a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament	8
Timeline	9
For adults who work with young people	11
Our campaigns	12



In this Easy Read document, difficult words and phrases are in **bold**. We explain what those words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

ABOUT THIS WEBPAGE



We are the Scottish Youth Parliament. We have existed for over 25 years.



There are 160 Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament. Members are young people aged 14 to 25.



Members represent young people in Scotland.



This webpage has instructions to help you register as a **candidate** for the next Scottish Youth Parliament elections.



A candidate is a person who stands for elections. They ask people to vote for them.



The next Scottish Youth Parliament elections are in November 2026.

ABOUT THIS WEBPAGE



Young people who register as candidates for the next Scottish Youth Parliament elections will receive support to be more confident.

REGISTER AS A CANDIDATE



Candidates for the next Scottish Youth Parliament elections must be aged between 14 and 25.



Young people who will be 25 years old on the 15th of November 2026 can also register as a candidate.



Candidates can become Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament in two ways:



- Candidates can stand for elections in their local **constituency**.



A constituency is a local area where people vote for someone to represent them. The Scottish Youth Parliament constituencies are the same as the Scottish Parliament constituencies.



- Candidates can stand for elections through a **National Voluntary Organisation**.

REGISTER AS A CANDIDATE



A National Voluntary Organisation is a group that supports people or causes and is not run by the government.



Election Coordinators are responsible for the elections at the Scottish Youth Parliament.



An Election Coordinator is an adult who works with the Scottish Youth Parliament to ensure elections take place successfully.



Registration for the Scottish Youth Parliament elections are open between April and September 2026.



You can register to become a candidate here: [Insert full link here.](#)

BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE SCOTTISH YOUTH PARLIAMENT



Candidates who are elected Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament will be responsible for:



- Representing young people in their communities.



- Finding out the problems that affect young people.



- Helping people in charge understand the problems young people have.



Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament get regular training to help them feel confident in their role.

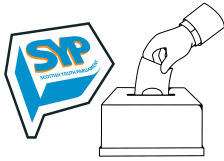


Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament meet and make friends with other young people in Scotland.



You can read more about being a Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament here: [Insert full link here.](#)

TIMELINE



The next Scottish Youth Parliament elections will happen like this:



- From April to September 2026, Young people can register to stand as candidates at the next Scottish Parliament elections.



After candidates have successfully registered, they will complete a short online training.



Candidates will work with an Election Coordinator to be able to run an election campaign.



An election campaign is when someone tells people why they should vote for them.



- From May to November 2026, candidates will receive more training to help them feel confident.

TIMELINE



- In October 2026, candidates will campaign in their constituency or with their National Voluntary Organisation.

November

2

November

15



- From the 2nd to the 15th of November, young people in Scotland will vote for their favourite candidates.

November

16



- On the 16th of November 2026, people will know which candidates have won the Scottish Youth Parliament elections.

December

1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31



Training Room

February

1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28

- From December 2026 to February 2027, the new Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament will take part in an **induction programme**.



An induction programme is training that helps someone learn about their new role and what to do.



If you have a question about the Scottish Youth Parliament elections, please contact hello@syp.org.uk

FOR ADULTS WHO WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE



Adults who work with young people can help them stand as candidates at the next Scottish Youth Parliament elections.



Information for adults who parent or care for young people is available here: [Insert full link here](#).



Information for adults who work in schools or colleges is available here: [Insert full link here](#).



Information for youth workers is available here: [Insert full link here](#).

OUR CAMPAIGNS



Young people tell Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament the problems they have and how to fix them.



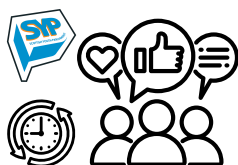
These ideas on how to fix problems are called policies.



Policies help Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament create campaigns.



A campaign is when people work together to make a change.



The Scottish Youth Parliament have had many campaigns over the years.



These campaigns have helped Scotland become a better place for young people.

OUR CAMPAIGNS



Information about a mental health campaign is available here: <https://syp.org.uk/campaign/speak-your-mind/>



Information about a young people's rights campaign is available here: <https://syp.org.uk/campaign/right-here-right-now/>



Information about a free public transport campaign for young people is available here: <https://syp.org.uk/campaign/all-aboard/>



Information about a recycling campaign is available here: <https://syp.org.uk/campaign/pack-it-up-pack-it-in/>



Information about a COVID-19 campaign is available here: <https://syp.org.uk/campaign/bounce-back/>



Information about an education campaign is available here: <https://syp.org.uk/campaign/bounce-back/>

OUR CAMPAIGNS



Information about a campaign to support adults who work with young people is available here:

<https://syp.org.uk/campaign/invest-in-and-protect-youth-work-services/>



Information about a gender **equality** campaign is available here:

<https://syp.org.uk/campaign/end-gender-based-violence/>



Gender equality means everyone is treated fairly and has the same rights, whatever their gender.