

Dear school,

Reading Youth Council (previously Reading Youth Cabinet) is the representative body and voice of young people in Reading, ages 11 to 18. In the past few months we have been undergoing a restructure, orchestrated by Reading's elected member of youth parliament, Oscar Ward. We have also been faced with a number of staffing issues, causing the delay in our annual elections, originally scheduled for December 2017.

As such, we are re-launching the youth council, fully restructured, this September. However, we are in need of new members. So, we are inviting young people across Reading to join the youth council, through simply filling out an online registration form (attached in email) and attending an introduction meeting on Monday, July 2nd, 4:30-6:30pm.

In order to do this however, we need your help in promoting to your pupils this great opportunity to join the youth council. How you go about this is entirely up to you, however the deadline for pupils signing up online is July 1st. Pupils who wish to sign up must be in year 8 or above.

Joining a youth council is a great opportunity for any young person who is passionate about bringing about change in their community, and interested in local, social, or political issues. Reading Youth Council does require a certain level of commitment from members, who will gain the title 'Youth Councillor', and will have to attend, as much as possible, meetings every two weeks, which are held in Reading Borough Council. Being part of the youth council will also open up each young person to a number of trips, meetings, and chances to lead campaigns, be on local committees, and join the UK Youth Parliament.

During exam periods no youth council meetings will be held, and when it comes to writing personal statements, being a part of a youth council can be a very valuable addition.

For more information, follow us on twitter, @RYC_Reading.

Thank you,

Zarah Khan
Chair of Reading Youth Council.