

Dear school,

In September young people across Reading will get the chance to make their voice heard and vote in the yearly Make Your Mark ballot. This is a national ballot, closely watched by the government, which decides the top 5 campaigns of the UK Youth Parliament and gives an insight into what issues matter most to young people.

Last year a record amount of young people in Reading voted, putting Reading firmly in 8th place nationally for turnout. This year, we seek to build on that success, and give even more young people across Reading, Wokingham, and West Berkshire a vote. However, we cannot do this without your help.

Just as with previous years, voting will take place throughout September. For schools who held the vote last year, we kindly ask that you do this again, and for schools who haven't held the vote before, we encourage you to do so this year, and in the years to come.

There are two methods of voting: ballots or tally sheets. Large numbers of both will be dropped off to your school in September, and if you need more, there are printable copies online at the youth parliament's website, or you can simply photocopy more ballots and tally sheets. Ballots are one per-student, and tally sheets can be done one per-tutor group/form group/class. How you go about holding the vote is up to you, however promotional material and extra advice will be provided.

All completed ballots and tally sheets will be picked up for counting by October 1st. Alternatively, results can be emailed to Reading Youth Council via email.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with us on this very important vote.

Yours sincerely,

Oscar Ward MYP

Member of Youth Parliament for Reading.

