

YCAB Newsletter



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Issue 1



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Milton Keynes Youth Cabinet (YCAB) is a group of 36 young people, aged from 11 to 18, who promote and represent the voices of young people in Milton Keynes. There was a youth election in February 2015 where young people in Milton Keynes voted for the next YCAB. The vote also decided on the two young people who would become Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) and the two who would be the Deputy Members of Youth Parliament (DMYPs). YCAB deals with local campaigns and issues within Milton Keynes whilst UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) works on national campaigns.



House of Commons debate led by young people happened on the 13th November 2015 and both of our Youth Parliament representatives attended. This is a big honor as only MPs are able to sit in these seats. Debates were held to discuss the issues and Amber, the North Milton Keynes representative, spoke about curriculum for life. "This sets up young people for the future, this is why it needs to be taught in schools" says Amber. In this meeting votes were cast on the two issues from the Make Your Mark campaign, in order to decide the UK wide campaign. The outcome was, with 155 votes, working together to combat racism and religious discrimination.



The campaigns which YCAB will be working on for the next 2 years will be Anti-Bullying and Mental Health. The Anti-Bullying campaign is the local campaign which young people in Milton Keynes voted for whilst the Mental Health campaign is the national campaign which UKYP is working on. Both projects are still in their early stages of development.

In July, YCAB had another meeting where we looked further into the Anti-Bullying campaign; we discussed the Children and Family's Partnership (as some members attended one of their meetings). We discussed the changes the council has made with the All in One card and we talked about the barbeque YCAB we had over the summer. We decided the three key topics of the campaign: cyber bullying, self-awareness and challenging homophobia as well as racism.

In August, the UK Youth Parliament Annual Sitting took place. The two MYPs for Milton Keynes attended the Annual Sitting where it was decided which campaigns will be included in the national Make Your Mark consultation which happened in September & October) nation consultation. This then decided which campaign UKYP will follow.

Event updates

MySayMk conference

On 8th July, students from schools around Milton Keynes participated in the My Say Mk conference. The following are activities that young people took part in: getting to know more about legal



helping to plan how MK is going to improve, health workshop. A lot of important decision makers came and young people got the chance to ask them questions about issues that they thought were important to them.

The **All in One Card** is a scheme originally set up by YCAB which decreases bus fares and provides nationally recognized identification. Despite changes made by the council, YCAB is still encouraging young people to use the card. YCAB is trying to lower the price of bus ticket prices to make sure young people can get around Mk easily.



British Youth Council Meeting

On Saturday, 5th September, the British Youth Council Representative, Priscilla and I (Mahi), attended the British Youth Council Annual Meeting in London where we were able to vote on key issues and decisions which would shape the actions of the BYC for the next year. We were also able to hear the candidates standing to be trustees of the British Youth

Council. As a result of the event, we not only were able to represent the young people of Milton Keynes but also understand how our organisation fits in amidst a range of youth organizations on a national level. – Mahi, DMYP



As previously mentioned, **Make Your Mark** is a national campaign carried out by UKYP. It gives young people the opportunity to decide which issues they want to be carried out. Students across Milton Keynes voted for the main issue amongst ten and living wage was the most popular.



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For more information

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