

Hounslow Youth Elections 2021-22

The Ultimate Guide for Nominees

Hello!

Thank you for your interest with the 2021-22 Hounslow Member of Youth Parliament elections.

This guide explains a few things to help you get involved in the HYC elections! Please take some time to read through this document in its entirety and get in touch with any questions you may have !

Thank you again, Hounslow Youth Council Team

1. Hounslow Member of Youth Parliament

Who are Hounslow Members of Youth Parliament?

Hounslow Youth Council (HYC) are a group of young people who represent the views of children and young people from across the borough. Their role is to influence decision-making within the council and the services young people access.

HYC representatives are aged 11 to 18 and up to age 25 for young people with disabilities.

HYC has 2 elected representatives, Members of Youth Parliament (MYP), who are elected from schools and colleges in Hounslow. Their role is to represent Hounslow on a regional and national basis to the UK Youth Parliament and British Youth Council.

What do MYP's get up to?

MYP's get up to a lot of different activities! Everything they do is to raise awareness and promote the meaningful engagement of young people in politics, democracy and citizenship.

They do this by:

- Producing an annual manifesto and action plan, which focuses on the key issues that affect the lives of young people in Hounslow.

- Running campaigns on their annual manifesto priorities.
- Running consultations with young people on issues in their manifesto.
- Advising on policies, activities and services that affect young people in Hounslow.
- Requesting meetings and reports from the council and organisations in Hounslow on issues identified by HYC in their annual manifesto.
- Facilitating relationships between young people and organisations that represent or provide services for young people.

One of HYC's key aims is to break the negative stereotypes held by society of young people, by having a positive impact on young people and communities.

What is expected of a Member of Youth Parliament?

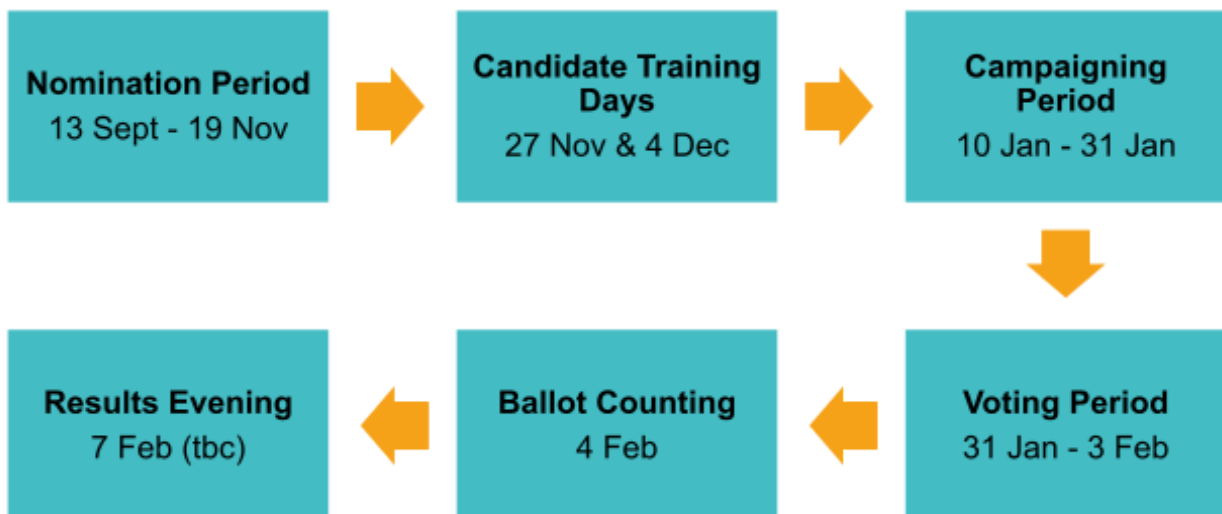
MYP's are asked to commit around 2 hours per week, which includes:

- Attending weekly HYC meetings and monthly Leadership Team meetings; representing young people.
- Actively contributing to and leading campaigns and events.
- Taking part in additional opportunities, such as youth proofing policies and running consultations.
- The completion of national accreditation.
- Checking and responding to emails, texts and social media messages.

2. Your involvement

We are excited that you want to be involved in the 2021-22 MYP elections!

1. Overview of the whole election process:



2. The process explained:

A. Nomination Process

Candidates will be required to complete a nomination form, which will include their manifesto and a skills analysis. In addition, candidates must collect a minimum of 25 signatures of other young people who support their nomination. They are asked to do this in between the training days (27th November - 4th December).

The nomination period is **Monday 13th September to Friday 19th November** (5pm).

B. Candidate Training Day

All successful candidates will be required to attend two full days (10am-4pm) training sessions. This is mandatory.

To ensure young people are able to attend, these training sessions will be held on: **Saturday 27th November** and **Saturday 4th December**. This training day will give candidates a chance to:

- Learn communication and campaigning skills;
- Learn how to campaign through social media;
- Learn about safe, appropriate but powerful campaigning
- Plan their campaign strategy.

It will give them the chance to meet the other candidates across the borough .

We will be including manifesto filming in the training day. We will also provide successful candidates with the relevant consent forms for parents to sign, allowing candidates' films to be available on the HYC social media pages.

We will then share written and film manifestos with all schools and colleges from **January 4th**.

C. Candidate Campaigning Period

Candidates have 3 weeks to campaign for votes in their polling school / college, from **Monday 10th January** to **Monday 31st January**.

D. Voting

Voting takes place across four days: **Monday 31st January – Thursday 3rd February**. Schools/colleges can choose their own voting day during this period. You may also choose to spread voting across all four days.

E. Ballot Count

Ballot count will take place on **Friday 4th February**.

G. Results Declaration

The HYC election results will be announced formally on **Monday 7th February**.

3. Key Dates

Date	Event
Monday 13th September 2021	HYC Elections Launch / Nominations Open
Monday 13th September – Friday 19th November 2021	Nomination Period (10 weeks)
Friday 19th November 2021, 5pm	Nominations Close
Saturday 20th November 2021	Nomination Processing
Saturday 27th November 2021 Saturday 4th December 2021	Candidate Training Days (must attend both)
Monday 10th January – Monday 31st January 2022	Candidate Campaigning Period (3 weeks)
Monday 31st January – 3rd February 2022	Voting period
Friday 4th February	Ballot Count
Monday 7th February (tbc)	Results Event (Hounslow House)

5. Why get involved?

Getting involved in the MYP elections has numerous benefits to young people

Benefits for young people

Young people who are elected as Members of Youth Parliament and School Representatives get a LOT from the experience:

- Lots of fun!
- The opportunity to have your voice heard AND make positive changes for young people
- The chance to represent other young people in your community.
- Meet new people across Hounslow, London and the UK.
- The chance to get to know Hounslow better.
- Opportunities to gain accreditations.
- Receiving free training, coaching and mentoring.
- A reference for school, college, university or employment.
- Trips and residential opportunities in and out of the borough?

AND, the elections experience is rewarding for every candidate:

- Learning new skills.
- Meeting new people across Hounslow.
- Experience democracy first hand.
- Considering what would make Hounslow even GREATER for young people.

6. Key Contacts

If you have questions, queries or concerns, please get in touch with Hounslow Youth Council team:

Temi Oluwadare (Youth Voice and Influence Officer)

Email: temi@participationpeople.com / Call: **07734387365**.

The Participation People are commissioned to deliver the Hounslow Youth Council on behalf of London Borough of Hounslow.