

Monday 8 July 2019

Commissioning, Performance & School  
Effectiveness  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

**FAO:**

***Secondary school & college student voice leads***

Dear Colleague,

**Re: Make Your Mark 2019 - the UK's largest youth consultation**

During 2018 over 1.1 million pupils took part in a national ballot, Make your Mark. This is the UK Youth Parliament's annual ballot of 11-18-year olds, and this year the hope is to surpass that figure. In Wiltshire schools and colleges cast over 4,000 votes. This year we really want to encourage additional pupil engagement and take that figure well above 5,000.

We are therefore writing to encourage your **school/college to register by 18 July** and take part in the consultation (which runs from 23 August until 9 October 2019). The British Youth Council (BYC) have made it easier this year to get involved and vote. Please register online at [Register/find out more including the brand new voting format](#) or (<http://www.ukyouthparliament.org.uk/makeyourmark/schools-colleges-and-youth-organisations/>).

Since 2000, the UK Youth Parliament has provided a voice for young people to be involved in decision making. Make Your Mark gives young people aged 11-18 the chance to decide what Members of Youth Parliament should debate and vote on during their sitting in the House of Commons this November.

To support school/college participation there are lots of recourse's available on the BYC links:

- Printed ballots are being offered for free for use in assemblies, lessons or tutor groups
- Alternative and accessible voting methods will also be available e.g. Tally Sheets, Widget version and a BSL video

If you have any questions please contact Steve Arthur-Wallis, Youth Democracy Coordinator for the South West at the British Youth Council [Steve.Arthur-Wallis@byc.org.uk](mailto:Steve.Arthur-Wallis@byc.org.uk). Alternatively, contact Sarah Banks, Senior Commissioning Officer, Youth Voice at [sarah.banks@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.banks@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Thank you for supporting student voice in Wiltshire.

Yours sincerely

Helen Jones  
Director of Commissioning

Helean Hughes  
Director Education and Skills