



BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

Targeted Youth Support Service Youth Voice & Participation

Make Your Mark 2020

Make
Your Mark



Youth Voice and Participation

Barnsley's Targeted Youth Support Service employs a specific team of employees with the purpose of engaging young people in Youth Voice and Participation activity on a local, regional and national level

The team actively supports young people and in particular the most vulnerable to get their voices heard and influence decisions which affect them and their lives

Providing young people with a variety of opportunities to meaningfully participate working with Secondary Schools, College, the community and voluntary sector and a range of partner organisations and across BMBC's Business Units

Barnsley's democratically elected Youth Council is facilitated by the team as is the Care4Us Council and more recently a specific forum for Young people with SEND

Youth Voice and Participation

Regional and National work with the United Kingdom Youth Parliament and British Youth Council is organised and supported by the team

The Children's Rights Advocacy Service and Independent Visitors Service for looked after Children and Care Leavers is part of this team and both providing support, information, advice and advocacy directly to and for Children and Young People who are looked after by BMBC

Hearing and responding to the views of the child and young person is an essential requirement of continuous service improvement and something which BMBC and its partners area fully supportive of.

Make Your Mark 2020

Each year the Youth Voice and Participation Team is responsible for organising and facilitating Barnsley young peoples contribution the annual Make Your Mark (MYM) consultation.

MYM is centrally managed by the British Youth Council (BYC), a youth led charity which aims to empower young people across the UK to have a say and be heard. Make your Mark is the single largest youth consultation and has been happening annually since 2011.

Like many things in 2020, MYM was different. The consultation moved from a primarily paper based vote to an online and virtual vote. BYC worked with the Local Government Association and partners to co-produce a list of Local topics which were the responsibility of local government and can be used to respond to the concerns of young people.

Make Your Mark would normally select the UK/Devolved topics Members of Youth Parliament debate in the House of Commons Chamber, where they also vote on the future campaigns. Due to the global pandemic, BYC were unable to hold this event and as a result will take the Make Your Mark results directly to inform the forthcoming campaigns.

Make Your Mark 2020 – The Ballot



Make Your Mark Tally Sheet

This is the tally sheet for use in tutor groups and workshop group-based voting. Voting is easy! Students select **one UK-wide issue** and **one local issue** that is most important to them.

Make Your Mark is an opportunity for **11-18-year olds** across the UK to have their say and begin their democratic journey by voting on the policies they want to introduce or change. The issues young people vote as the most important will be debated by Members of Youth Parliament. They will campaign to influence the UK Parliament and their local representatives, ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers. This is their opportunity to influence decision makers who can make a real difference on the issues that matter to them.

You have until 30th November to cast your vote!

Pick **ONE** topic most affecting young people across the UK:



Across the UK Topics	Tally of Votes	Total
Support our mental health More money should be spent on young people's mental health services, including offering mental health support in schools and training teachers about mental health. (Devolved topic)		
Free university Invest in young people by providing free university. This will help more young people reach their full potential without suffering financial hardship. (Devolved topic)		
Tackle child poverty End the system trapping 1 in 4 young people in poverty. All children should be able to thrive. (Devolved topic)		
Stop plastic pollution If no action is taken, it is predicted that waste plastics will outweigh fish in our oceans by 2050. Let's reduce single-use and non-essential plastics. (Devolved topic)		
Increase racial awareness in the curriculum To build a better future together, young people need to be taught the truth about the racism in past. The curriculum should tell the truth about racism. (Devolved topic)		
Take action on the climate emergency Protect the planet and our future by		



Make Your Mark Tally Sheet

transforming society and the economy to be green and sustainable to tackle the climate and ecological crisis. (UK wide topic)		
Vote at 16 Lower the voting age to 16. 16-year-olds can join the army and get married, so should be able to elect those who represent them. (UK wide topic)		
Tackle discrimination and hate crime in the UK Discrimination is rising in the UK. The government should tackle hate crime by ensuring it is punished appropriately. (UK wide topic)		
Include young people in the plan for COVID-19 recovery Young people's mental health, the green recovery, education, and employment should be central to COVID-19 recovery talks. Involve young people in the conversations which affect their future. (UK wide topic)		
Protect human rights Everybody's human rights need to be protected. The UK is proud of its history of protecting human rights and this must continue. (UK wide topic)		



Make Your Mark 2020

Prior to the consultation going live Barnsley youth representatives consulted with other young people from across the borough to find out the most important issues to them. These issues were narrowed down to create the top 10 local topics for Barnsley's young people to vote on in the ballot.

The 2020 campaign was undertaken using a range of socially distanced/virtual promotion campaign sessions in/with at least eleven settings including a number of Barnsley's secondary schools, Barnsley College, Greenacre School, Springwell Academy and a small number of COVID secure youth provisions across the borough. The youth voice forums created promotional videos to use in the run up to the voting period and they also worked with various local and regional partners to widen the engagement of young people accessing online voting using the QR code.

After a difficult campaign and voting process a total of **4,794** votes were cast by young which saw Barnsley ranked 4th across the nation based on percentage turnout at approximately 22%.

Barnsley's votes contributed to the national total of over 180,000 young people's voices being represented in the annual consultation.

Make Your Mark 2020

The top three local issues for Barnsley Young People are as follows;

1. Mental Health - make local services more accessible for young people so that they can talk and access services when they really need them before they reach crisis point.
2. Drugs - young people who are in situations where drug use occurs should be given the support they need. The education and awareness around this issue needs to be improved.
3. Discrimination - racism, sexuality, ableism, disability, gender, age - young people in schools should be better educated on diversity. It may help to prevent discrimination and hate crimes.

Make Your Mark 2020

The issues of national concern for Barnsley Young people combined from the UK and devolved ballot were;

1. Support our Mental Health - More money should be spent on young people's mental health services, including offering mental health support in schools and training teachers about mental health (A devolved topic) (2nd national priority campaign)
2. Free University - Invest in young people by providing free university. This will help more young people reach their full potential without suffering financial hardship. (A devolved topic) (1st national priority campaign)
3. Include young people in the plan for COVID-19 Recovery - Young people's mental health, the green recovery, education, employment should be central to COVID-19 recovery talks. Involve young people in the conversations which affect their future. (UK wide topic)

Barnsley's results have now been collated with others from across the country and used to identify the three national campaigns for at least the year ahead. These are now confirmed as;

1 – Free University (as above)

2 – Support our Mental Health (as above)

3 – Take Action on the Climate Emergency: Stop Plastic Pollution - If we do not take action now, it is predicted that waste plastics will outweigh fish in our oceans by 2050. Let's reduce single-use and non-essential plastics (UK wide topic)

Make Your Mark 2020 – Results by setting

School	Approx. No's on roll – Sept 2020	Number pf completed Ballots	Top three issues of national concern	Top local issue
Horizon Community College	1956	1228	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support our mental health 2. Free university 3. Include young people in the plan for Covid-19 recovery 	<p>Drugs Improve young people's access to the support they need. The education and awareness around this issue needs to be improved.</p>
Kirk Balk Academy	1250	338	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include young people in the plan for Covid-19 recovery 2. Protect human rights 3. Take action on the climate emergency 	<p>Environment, Littering and recycling We believe we must protect our environment for the next generation and this begins with making environmentally friendly changes in our community.</p>

Make Your Mark 2020 – Results by setting

School	Approx. No's on roll – Sept 2019	Number pf completed Ballots	Top three issues of national concern (UK & Devolved combined)	Top local issue
Dearne Astrea Academy	1077	145	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase racial awareness in the curriculum 2. Support our mental health 3. Tackle discrimination and hate crime in the UK 	<p>Mental health access Make local services more accessible for young people so they can access them when they really need them before they reach crisis point.</p>
Barnsley Academy	840	25	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tackle child poverty 2. Free university 3. Stop plastic pollution 	<p>Mental health access Make local services more accessible for young people so they can access them when they really need them before they reach crisis point.</p>

Make Your Mark 2020 – Results by setting

School	Approx. No's on roll – Sept 2019	Number pf completed Ballots	Top three issues of national concern (UK & Devolved combined)	Top local issue
Outwood Academy Shafton	1235	385	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free university 2. Support our mental health 3. Tackle child poverty 	<p>Independent living skills Young people need to be taught skills to prepare them for life as an adult. This should include things like being able to budget and manage finances, how to set up and manage bills and know how to use utilities.</p>
Penistone Grammar ALC	1695	976	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free university 2. Support our mental health 3. Take action the climate emergency 	<p>Drugs Improve young people's access to the support they need. The education and awareness around this issue needs to be improved.</p>

Make Your Mark 2020 – Results by setting

School	Approx. No's on roll – Sept 2019	Number pf completed Ballots	Top three issues of national concern (UK & Devolved combined)	Top local issue
Delta Darton Academy	1170	29	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include young people in the plan for covid-19 recovery 2. Tackle discrimination and hate crime in the UK 3. Support our mental health 	<p>Mental health access Make local services more accessible for young people so they can access them when they really need them before they reach crisis point.</p>
Outwood Academy Carlton	1078	481	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support our mental health 2. Free University 3. Stop plastic pollution 	<p>Discrimination (racism, sexuality, ableism, disability, gender, age) - Young people in schools should be educated on diversity. It may help if they're better educated, to prevent discrimination and hate crimes happening.</p>

Make Your Mark 2020 – Results by setting

School	Approx. No's on roll – Sept 2019	Number pf completed Ballots	Top three issues of national concern (UK & Devolved combined)	Top local issue
Greenacre School	195 (No represents those eligible to vote)	161	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include young people in the plan for Covid-19 recovery 2. Support our mental health 3. Stop plastic pollution 	<p>Special educational needs awareness and disabled access</p> <p>Staff, establishments and employers should be made more aware of what is needed for SEND young people to access education and employment and how to better support them.</p>
Springwell	57	23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include young people in the plan for Covid-19 recovery 2. Support our mental health 3. Tackle discrimination and hate crime in the UK 	N/A

Make Your Mark 2020 – Results by setting

School	Approx. No's on roll – Sept 2019	Number pf completed Ballots	Top three issues of national concern (UK & Devolved combined)	Top local issue
Barnsley College	N/A	208	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free university 2. Protect our mental health 3. Take action on the climate emergency 	<p>Mental health access Make local services more accessible for young people so they can access them when they really need them before they reach crisis point.</p>
Individual young people @ various settings and in the community	N/A	744	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free university 2. Protect our mental health 3. Take action on the climate emergency 	<p>Mental health access Make local services more accessible for young people so they can access them when they really need them before they reach crisis point</p>
Online votes via BYC	N/A	51	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support our mental health 2. Tackle child poverty 3. Free university 	N/A

What next

The local and national results will be used to form the structure of Barnsley youth Council's work plan over at least the next 12 months. The Youth Council will seek to use the views of young people to inform strategic developments in the relevant areas and will utilise local partners and structures to channel their consultation and explore co-production and collaboration opportunities with adult providers and stakeholders.

Results for individual settings have been shared with the appropriate leads to evidence young peoples views.

Areas of success will be celebrated, recognised and shared on a regional and national stage alongside other local authorities and UKYP representatives.

This year's MYM priorities will feature in the campaign work of Barnsley's elected Young Mayor through their championing and advocacy work alongside the Youth Council and other more specific youth voice forums and of course Barnsley's Adult Mayor.

What next

It is hoped that strategic leaders take into account the issues voted on by young people and that these be reflected in the Council's strategic planning priorities for children and young people, working with and involving young people through recognised forums.

Leaders and members will hopefully champion these causes and advocate more widely on behalf of the voice of young people in Barnsley using the results as a firm evidence base.

The MYM results will be shared with SMT, Council Cabinet and the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group and it is hoped that they will advise of further links where young people's MYM results can be heard and acted upon.

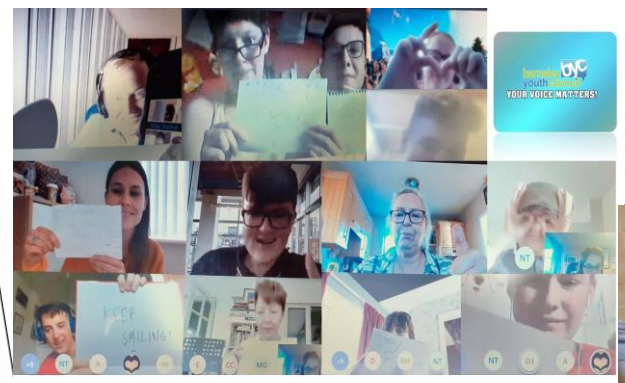
Thank you for supporting Barnsley's Youth Voice Forums and the 2020 Make Your Mark consultation.

Make Your Mark



Annual Conference 2020

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union 



barnsley 
youthcouncil



**11-18 years of age?
HAVE YOUR SAY!**

SCAN ME

20 is your chance to get your voice heard on...
ter to you- Scan this QR code to be taken
and vote for the issues you feel affect you
most. The top issues will form the basis
of our campaigns for the next year-
today and have your say!

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