Welcome to UK Parliament Week!

Explore this year’s UK Parliament Week story in these pages! Discover how UKPW reaches every constituency in the UK and goes global. Meet the people making change happen through democracy. Get inspired by young people asking questions and debating big issues in schools, youth groups and the UK Youth Parliament. Celebrate communities coming together to connect with the UK Parliament and getting empowered to have their voices heard.

Now in its ninth year, UK Parliament Week goes from strength to strength with thousands of schools, youth groups, faith communities, museums and libraries joining the conversation about our democracy and our UK Parliament.

You can get involved too by following @YourUKParl on Twitter, checking out the #UKPW hashtag on social media and sharing the inspiring stories you find. Get ready to sign up for 2020...

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There are UKPW activities taking place in every nation and region, in every one of the UK Parliament’s 650 constituencies!

Latest figures as at 8th October 2019.
Taking part in UK Parliament Week empowers people to take action on the issues they care about. UKPW participants can change the law and make a difference through democracy.

Case Study

...by taking part in UK Parliament Week you really can affect change!

“I’m Amber and I am an assistant leader for a Girlguiding Ranger unit in Chelmsford, Essex. We are quite a special unit as we meet monthly to record a radio show on a local community radio station, Chelmsford Community Radio.

Our show is called The GENE (pronounced genie) radio show and we sign up every year to take part in UK Parliament Week.

We devote the whole of our November show to talking about UKPW and even trying out some of the activities on air. As I’m sure you can appreciate, this takes a little bit of adaptation and imagination!

Last year, we decided to invite our local MP Vicky Ford on to the show. Our girls planned their questions in advance of the visit and decided to lobby Vicky about period poverty. This is something that affects many girls across the country and is a subject they feel very strongly about. They spoke about how no girl should lose precious time off school because of being unable to afford sanitary products and that they should be available for free at school.

Vicky listened to our girls and took this information back to Parliament. We were thrilled to hear at the recent Your UK Parliament Week awards that this had helped to change the law and that from September 2019 there will be a free sanitary products scheme in English secondary schools.

Proof that by taking part in UK Parliament Week you really can affect change!”
Some of UK Parliament Week’s most enthusiastic and active participants are from youth organisations. Meet the young people getting involved and hear about their UKPW experiences.

Case study 1: Girlguiding Ulster

“34% of girls and young women are put off by politics because of how female politicians are represented in the media. As a young person passionate about politics I wanted to help change this.

Political education for young people is vitally important, and I believe that Girlguiding is the perfect place to provide this opportunity for girls, with the help of the UK Parliament week resource we were able to engage young people in the decision-making process of our country.

Girlguiding Ulster members undoubtedly are strong future leaders!”

Sarah McCallister, Donaghcloney Rangers, Girlguiding Ulster

Case study 2: The Boys’ Brigade

In 2018 we were proud to have become an official partner of UK Parliament Week with more than 60 Companies getting involved. It has been fantastic to see Boys’ Brigade members learning more about the UK Parliament and its role in our society, debating issues that matter to them, understanding and exercising their right to vote and meeting with both local MPs and also members of the House of Lords.

5,570 youth groups
150,511 young people

Taking part
- Boys and Girls Club of Wales
- Boys’ Brigade
- Girlguiding Anglia
- Girlguiding Branch Associations
- Girlguiding HQ
- Girlguiding London and South East England
- Girlguiding Midlands
- Girlguiding North East
- Girlguiding North West
- Girlguiding Scotland
- Girlguiding South West
- Girlguiding Ulster
- Girls’ Brigade England & Wales
- Scouts Cymru
- Scouts Foundation NI
- Scouts Scotland
- Scouts UK

Latest figures as at 8th October 2019.
Thousands of schools in every nation and region are getting involved with UK Parliament Week this year!

Activities exploring debating and making laws give pupils the tools they need to question, challenge and make a difference. It’s about making pupils feel their opinions and ideas are valuable, but also teaching them respect for other people’s point of view. In our changing world, gaining an understanding of why each voice matters is a vital part of enabling pupils’ contribution in their communities. UK Parliament Week empowers pupils with the skills and confidence to speak up about the issues that matter to them.

There are so many flexible, cross-curricular approaches to celebrating UK Parliament Week, from exploring the features of our democracy in Citizenship, PDMU and Social Studies to debating topical issues in PSHE, and it’s a big tick in the British Values box. Celebrating UK Parliament Week is memorable, empowering and fun for thousands of schools around the UK!

Case study: Eastbury Community School

Eastbury Community School is an all-through school in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. The school took part in UK Parliament Week for the first time in 2018 as part of their drive to deliver whole school enrichment on important political and social issues. One example is through the successful Model UN Society, which allowed students to keep up to date with current affairs and to develop into confident, committed and articulate global citizens.

“Through such activities, students have been able to master the art of compromise, conflict resolution and negotiation. Their UK Parliament Week activities help them explore ways to have their say and feel empowered to make a positive difference. UK Parliament Week activities helped students to develop skills such as leadership, public speaking, research and academic literacy. Many students are now embarking on ways to build a political career!”

Tazkia Mizan, Eastbury Community School
UK Parliament Week is proud to bring faith communities together to explore their influence on the UK Parliament.

“UKPW has provided an opportunity for us to work together to achieve our common goals and ideals. We now have an ongoing conversation with the UK Parliament through debates, campaigns and events, which empower our communities to have their say on the issues that matter to them.

We will continue to use UK Parliament Week as a platform to ensure our communities are positively engaged with Parliament. We will do this by understanding each others’ values, and through democracy celebrate diversity.”

Imam Mansoor Clarke, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community
Board of Deputies of British Jews
Rajnish Kashyap General Secretary, Hindu Council UK
Dr. Harsha Jani, Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh UK
Hardeep Singh, Network of Sikh Organisations
Venerable Dr. Miaolung, Fo Guang Shan London
Darcy Littler, Researcher of London Buddhism
Research Support Group, Fo Guang Shan

If religion is to find its place in modern societies then equality and democratic representation is of key importance. This is especially the case when it comes to interfaith dialogue, all religions should be equally represented no matter how big or small their influence in society.

Darcy Littler, Buddhist Progress Society

67 activities

Latest figures as at 8th October 2019.
UK Youth Parliament enables young people to use their energy and passion to change the world for the better.

Run by young people for young people, UK Youth Parliament provides opportunities for 11-18 year-olds to use their voice in creative ways to bring about social change. UK Youth Parliament has 300 elected Members of Youth Parliament aged 11-18. Members of Youth Parliament are elected in annual youth elections throughout the UK.

Any young person aged 11-18 can stand or vote. In the past two years one million young people have voted in UK Youth Parliament elections. Once elected Members of Youth Parliament organise events and projects, run campaigns and influence decision makers on the issues which matter most to young people.

All Members of Youth Parliament meet nationally twice a year at the UK Youth Parliament Annual Sitting and UK Youth Parliament House of Commons Sitting.

“Every year, Members of the UK Youth Parliament hold their annual sitting in the House of Commons chamber, where they debate five topics voted for by 11-18 year olds from across the UK in the Make Your Mark ballot. The annual sitting is a fantastic opportunity for Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) to use their elected voice to bring about social change and ensure meaningful representation of young people. UK Parliament Week is a brilliant way for MYPs to then carry on the conversation as they engage young people across the four nations with Parliament and empower them to have their voice heard and make a change.”

Zoë Cumberland, Head of Programmes, British Youth Council

The BYC is the charity that runs the UK Youth Parliament.
UK Parliament Week has global reach, with people from countries all over the world getting involved!

Latest figures as at 8th October 2019. | Image: Freepik.com. This map has been designed using resources from Freepik.com
If you’ve made a difference in your community or helped to promote democracy, apply for a Your UK Parliament Award!

Big or small we want to hear about a change you’ve made by taking action. It could be in your local community, online or in your school. It could be a campaign, debating or voting on a subject, contacting your MP, sharing information, or taking action on an issue you care about.

Tell us about democratic action you took and let us celebrate you and your achievements!

Applications are open until 31 January 2020. An Awards ceremony will take place at the Houses of Parliament in March 2020.

Apply online at www.parliament.uk/awards

Meet last year’s Your UK Parliament Award winners:

1. **Community Campaigner of the Year:** The Hummingbird Young Leaders
2. **Digital Campaigner of the Year:** We Care Campaign
3. **Speaker’s School Action Award:** Grange Primary School, Bootle
4. **Teacher of the Year:** Joy Helliwell and Simone Ryan
5. **UK Parliament Week Activity of the Year:** Eastbury Community School
6. **UK Parliament Week Official Partner of the Year:** Girlguiding Ulster
7. **Volunteer of the Year:** Maxine Jones, Girlguiding Anglia
A big thank you to all our Official Partners and to everyone who has contributed to UKPW!

Association for Citizenship Teaching (ACT)
Association of Independent Museums
Board of Deputies of British Jews
Boys and Girls Club of Wales
Boys’ Brigade
British Youth Council
Cabinet Office
Church of England
Corganisers
Council of British International Schools
Electoral Commission
English Football League Trust
Federation of Student Islamic Societies (FOSIS)
Girlguiding Anglia
Girlguiding Branch Associations
Girlguiding HQ
Girlguiding London and South East England
Girlguiding Midlands
Girlguiding North East
Girlguiding North West
Girlguiding Scotland
Girlguiding South West
Girlguiding Ulster
Girls’ Brigade England & Wales
Hindu Council UK
Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh U.K.

International Buddhist Progress Society UK
Jewish Leadership Council (JLC)
Just Like Us (Schools Diversity Week)
Network of Sikh Organisations
National Union of Students (NUS)
OFSTED
Political Studies Association
Politics Project
School Libraries Association
Scottish Youth Parliament
Scouts Cymru
Scouts Foundation NI
Scouts Scotland
Scouts Association
Smart School Councils Community
UK Youth
Voice of Jewish Students
Young Citizens

Members of House of Commons
Members of House of Lords
Members’ staff from both Houses
UK Parliament Week Coordination Group
UK Parliament Week Champions
UK Parliament Week participants
How can you connect with the UK Parliament?

Groups
Workshops, local events, petitions, select committee inquiries. Get involved and have your say on issues that matter to you.

www.parliament.uk/getinvolved | @YourUKParl

For schools
School trips, award winning resources, free teacher training, workshops at your school. What will your school do next?

www.parliament.uk/education | @ukparleducation