



The New Generation of Light Newsletter

SECOND YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING

The second St Helens Youth Council meeting was held on Thursday 18th July 2019.

We also welcomed two more schools to the Youth Council this meeting, which now means 12 schools/ provisions are now part of St Helens Youth Council and 25 young people!

We would like to welcome—

Niamh Dowd—De La Salle

Jacob Walsh—De La Salle

Arabella Reed—Rainhill High School

Charlotte Strong—Rainhill High School



The Youth Council also had an opportunity to have conversations with the Daniel Fox Foundation regarding their knife crime campaign.

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MEET ST HELENS YOUTH COUNCIL'S ...

CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

Within the first Youth Council meeting, the Youth Councillors voted on who they would want to be their Chair and Deputy Chair. The elected Chair of the Youth Council is Jessica Hughes from Tower College and the elected Deputy Chair is Jessica Morris from St Cuthbert's Catholic High School.

Here is a little bit about them—

- ▶ My name is Jessica Hayes and I am from Tower College.

Our St Helens Youth Council Manifesto for the year 2019/2020 is well founded on the most important problems highlighted by the national 'Make Your Mark' survey, Namely Knife Crime, Mental Health, and Homelessness. I find it difficult to give precedence to one over the others.

Poverty leads to homelessness, causing mental health problems and the desperation that follows may, in turn, lead to knife crime. We in the St Helens Youth Council are pledged to focus our collective efforts on Knife Crime. I feel we must come to fully understand what this term means in our community. It is only by a complete understanding of the problem that we can offer a positive recommendation on this issue. I was thankful for the Youth Council's warmth and understanding which was shown to me when I was elected Chair. I look forward to being part of the team to and honour our pledge made in this manifesto.

- ▶ My name is Jessica Morris and I am from St Cuthbert's Catholic High School. I am the Deputy Chair for the 2019/20 Youth Council.

During my secondary school career, I have held various posts including: Form Captain, Student Council member and Student Voice member. I have a love for the performing arts and musical theatre.

As a member of the Youth Council, I hope to be able to make a difference to children's lives in St. Helens and beyond.



MAKE YOUR MARK 2019

Within the second Youth Council meeting the Youth Councillors received training to become Make Your Mark Champions, this training allows the Youth Councillors to deliver the Make Your Mark ballots to all young people aged 11–18 in St Helens either within their own schools or local Year 6's in their local primary schools.

Make Your Mark is the largest youth consultation in Europe. Last year over 1 million young people took part in providing their views on what the UK Youth Parliament should campaign on for 2018–2019.

Last year 3,557 young people in St Helens took part in Make Your Mark. 2018's ballot paper had 10 issues which young people could vote upon. They were only allowed to place their vote against one issue. However, this year Young People are able to have 3 votes, 1 vote for a UK Wide issue, 1 vote for a Devolved issue and an option to write down a local issue.

This year we have 12 schools/colleges/groups who have all pre registered with the UK Youth Parliament for their Make Your Mark ballots. This means out of the 15,552 young people in St Helens, 10500 young people will have the opportunity to take part in this years Make Your Mark, which is amazing news!

We also pleased to say that for the first time ever, our Member of Youth Parliament's motion for calling upon the Government to Tackle Child Poverty was voted by his peers to be put on this year's ballot as well as a 97% backing for it to be put on the UK Youth Parliament's manifesto.

This year the Youth Service are hoping to award the school with the most improved Make Your Mark turn out with a trophy and celebration, we are also hoping to continue this award in the future.



WHAT ARE THE YOUTH COUNCIL WORKING ON?

‘END KNIFE CRIME CAMPAIGN DAY’

Within the second Youth Council meeting the young people planned on what they wanted to do with regards to their manifesto. After meeting with the Daniel Fox Foundation and having discussions, they have planned to hold a ‘End Knife Crime Day’ within their schools aimed at either Year 7 or 8.

They plan to hold the day between September 2019 and February 2020, hopefully on separate dates as they would like to invite the Daniel Fox Foundation to give a workshop.

The Youth Councillors that they would like to have the young people within Year 7/8 off timetable for a day and split the day into 3 parts.

1. A workshop delivered by the Daniel Fox Foundation
2. A workshop discussing Alternative Activities
3. A debate around an issue about knife crime

The Youth Council are hoping that this campaign day will help other young people to reconsider picking up a knife.



CAMPAIGN DAY/WEEKS CALENDAR

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>OCTOBER</i> 2019</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ADHD AWARENESS MONTH 2019 BLACK HISTROY MONTH 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 10th October—WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY ◆ 12th October—19th October — NATIONAL HATE CRIME WEEK/ST HELENS HATE CRIME AWARENESS WEEK ◆ 17th October—INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY 2019 ◆ 18th October—ANTI SLAVERY DAY 2019 ◆ 24th October—UNITED NATIONS DAY
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>NOVEMBER</i> 2019</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ISLAMAPHOBIA AWARENESS MONTH 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2nd November –8th November—PARLIAMENT WEEK ◆ 4th November— 10th November—YOUTH WORK WEEK ◆ 10th November—REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY ◆ 11th November— ARMISTICE DAY ◆ 11th—15th November—ANTI BULLYING WEEK 2019 ◆ 11th—16th November—INTERFAITH WEEK ◆ 16th November— INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>DECEMBER</i> 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3rd December— INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DISABLED PERSONS ◆ 18th December—INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>JANUARY</i> 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 4th January—WORLD BRAILLE DAY
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>FEBRUARY</i> 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LGBT HISTORY MONTH 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1st February—WORLD HIJAB DAY ◆ 4th February—WORLD CANCER DAY ◆ 3rd –9th February—CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2020 ◆ 6th February—TIME TO TALK DAY 2020
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>MARCH</i> 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1st March—ZERO DISCRIMINATION DAY ◆ 3rd March—WORLD HEARING DAY ◆ 8th March—INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ◆ 21st March—INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION ◆ 31st March— INTERNATIONAL TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>APRIL</i> 2020</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">STRESS AWARENESS MONTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 2nd April—WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

What's on?	When?	Where?	Who can attend?
MAKE YOUR MARK Submission	Wednesday 9th October 2019 Mid Day	ALL UK	All Schools/Provisions/ LA's.
Youth Focus Northwest meeting with BYC convention	Saturday 12th October 2019	Preston	MYP, DMYP, P.O.S.H
Youth Council Meeting	Thursday 24th October 2019 9.30—12.30	Council Chamber, Town Hall	Youth Council
PARLIAMENT WEEK	2nd November—9th November 2019	ALL UK	ALL UK
House of Commons Debate – BYC	9th November 2019	Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London	ALL Members of Youth Parliament
YOUTH WORK WEEK	4th November—10th November	ALL UK	ALL UK
Youth Focus Northwest Meeting	Sunday 1st December 2019	TBC	MYP, DMYP, P.O.S.H
Youth Focus Northwest Meeting	Saturday 18th January 2020	TBC	MYP, DMYP, P.O.S.H
Last Youth Council Meeting for 2019-2020	Thursday 6th February 2020—9.30—12.30	Council Chamber, Town Hall	Youth Council
Last Youth Council Meeting for 2020-2021	Thursday 26th March 2020—9.30—12.30	Council Chamber, Town Hall	Youth Council

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