

National campaign 2014

Every year, members of youth parliament debate in the House of Commons and vote on a national campaign to work on. The 2014 debate voted 'Votes at 16' as the preferred option.

Votes at 16

The UK youth parliament believes people aged 16 and 17 should be allowed to vote. This national campaign beat four other options to become the campaign they worked on. 'A curriculum to prepare us for life,' which had the second most votes, was selected as a priority campaign.

- [View the results of the election here.](#)

There were 296 members debating on the subjects, with more than 475,000 young people voting on them.

Nick Hurd MP, who attended the debate, addressed the house. He said: "There's lots of rubbish talked about your generation, but I have a completely different view. I think you represent the most passionate, socially responsible generation of young people this country has seen for a long time."

Shakeel Hajat, 17, proposed the 'Votes for 16' campaign. He said: "The tired walls of this prestigious room have, I believe, time for one more reform. Let's re-engage the disengaged, regard the disregarded, let's give the vote to young people who deserve the responsibility."

Chante Joseph, 17, backs the 'curriculum to prepare us for life'. He said: "The campaign is all about life skills. We're not just equipping young people with transferable skills, we're giving them a ticket to confidence. We're saying education is not done in vain. Young people needn't be disillusioned, they should be enticed by it."