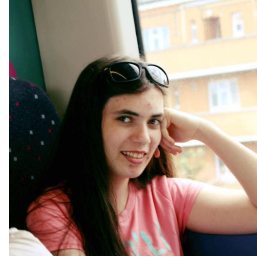


Member of Youth Parliament for Southend

Yasmin Bey



Hi there! My name is Yasmin and I'm running to become Southend's Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) for Southend in 2018/19. I've been a member of Southend Youth Council for over a year now, holding the roles of Speaker and most recently, Deputy Youth Mayor of Southend. I believe that these two roles have given me the experience to step up and represent the young people of Southend on a national level.

I am a firm believer in our capabilities as a generation, to instigate change. As young people, we are frequently referred to as "the future" which of course, is true. However, why can't we be the now? According to the Office of National Statistics, young people make up approximately 21.5% of Southend's population. These numbers go to show that we are a force to be reckoned with. As MYP, I want to educate every single young person on the opportunities that they have to make a change. This will range from helping the environment by learning how to properly use the recycling service in Southend, to helping others by activities such as volunteering or blood donation (for those 17+).

I think that education lets us down when it comes to preparing us for the real world. Whilst every school has its own PSHE curriculum, I believe that they do not teach us various aspects of adult life that we need to know before leaving the education system. I bet that many (if not all) of us could state what happened to each of Henry VIII's six wives and yet a large number of us don't know the difference between the plethora of bank accounts available to us. As an MYP, I will campaign for a Curriculum for Life to be implemented in **all** schools, kickstarted by the Skills for Life conference in March 2018.

Southend needs to change, and we are the ones who are going to do it. In the present, not the future.