

# **Youth Work's Role in Political Literacy**



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## General Election 2024

Young people need to have knowledge, skills and attitudes to understand and engage in politics on a local, national or even international scale. This is what we call political literacy.

Youth workers have a responsibility to support young people's political literacy and engagement in politics, without instilling them with our own personal political opinions. Through youth work, young people grow as active citizens, expressing their voice and enabling change.

For this General Election, young people aged 18 and over will be eligible to vote. This does not mean that you only need to work with older young people. Children under 18 have the right to have their say on all issues that affect them, as enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Additionally, children have a right to access to accurate information. By learning about these rights in a rights-respecting way, youth work progresses those very rights.

### **In the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Youth Work:**

YW06 Explore the concept of values and beliefs with young people.

YW09 Support young people to become responsible citizens through active involvement with youth work.

YW10 Advocate with and on behalf of young people so that their interests are represented.





## Resources

### **Young Scot - UK General Election 2024**

Practical information on registering to vote and the process of voting.

### **Electoral Commission - Education Resources**

Activities and guidance for supporting young people to engage with democracy.

### **Shout Out UK - Dismiss**

Campaign to equip young people with the political literacy skills to dismiss disinformation.

### **Give an X**

Youth-led, non-partisan youth voter registration campaign supporting young people to make an informed vote.

### **UK Youth - Youth Organisation Briefing Pack**

Information for youth workers on the General Election.





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