



CIYA VYAS

AGE: 17 years old FROM: England

TOP FIVE CHARACTER VALUES: COMMUNITY AWARENESS | RESILIENCE, PERSEVERANCE & DETERMINATION | OPEN MINDEDNESS | COMMUNICATION | SOCIAL JUSTICE

"I am proud to have engaged other young people to take part in political community events from women's marches to cultural celebrations."

I am an active member of Hounslow Youth Council and this has introduced me to the political issues and events in my community. Soon after joining I was made a Member of Youth Parliament. I am passionate about voicing my beliefs and campaigning for change for the improvement and development of my community as well as supporting issues such as women's rights and LGBT acceptance. This year I will be focusing on a public health approach to knife crime campaign - knife crime was identified as the number one issue for young people in the Make Your Mark consultation.

Working within a team for a competition, we campaigned to 'unpick stereotypes', fighting discrimination and calling for respect and acceptance of people from ethnic minority populations. I was proud we won due to our success attending debates, promoting the cause online, speaking to schools and communicating with politicians directly. This work also gave me the exciting opportunity to visit Washington DC with my team, where I gained valuable

knowledge and insight into the world of American politics.

I am proud to have engaged other young people to take part in political community events from women's marches to cultural celebrations.

Now studying Politics, I enjoy learning even more about the topic, alongside my ongoing work with Hounslow Youth Council advocating for many important social issues, discussing my ideas with politicians and striving to make a real difference in my community.

