

# Vote for your next Member of Youth Parliament Candidate!

## Youth Voices Rise Above.

Hi! My name is Kieran Cahill, and I'm someone who loves combining creativity with critical thinking. I'm actively involved in both **debate** and **musical theatre**, two passions that have shaped how I express myself and connect with others. Through debate, I've learned how to think on my feet, build strong arguments, and confidently share my voice. Meanwhile, musical theatre has given me a way to tell stories, collaborate with others, and bring characters to life on stage. Whether I'm standing behind a podium or performing under the spotlight, I love the challenge of communicating ideas and emotions in powerful ways.

Both debate and musical theatre have helped me develop skills that I believe are essential for success in Youth Parliament. Debate has taught me how to analyze complex issues, communicate clearly, and listen to different perspectives with an open mind — all of which are crucial for effective leadership and policy making. At the same time, musical theatre has strengthened my confidence when speaking in front of an audience and my ability to work as part of a team to achieve a shared goal. Together, these experiences have prepared me to contribute to Youth Parliament with confidence, creativity, and a strong sense of collaboration.

### IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOTE FOR ME

You can register to vote by contacting [Kate.darlington@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:Kate.darlington@somerset.gov.uk) or vote in school or college between **17 November** and **15 December**. Schools/ colleges will be sent resources and ideas on how they can run student voting!



# My Campaign Manifesto

**I want to stand because I believe that...**

- 1 - Young people deserve a real say in decisions that affect our future, not just token gestures.**
- 2 - Civil injustice - Whether it's discrimination, inequality, or being ignored - needs to be challenged.**
- 3 - Education should prepare us for real life, not just exams**
- 4 - Our country should give young people better opportunities - safe spaces, events and fair chances to succeed**

# Why Vote for me?

## I will...

- 1 - fight for stronger youth representation - making sure our voices reach the people in power as a Youth Parliament Ambassador, representative and role model, promoting and attending Youth Voice opportunities in schools and across the community, using social media, the youth parliament website and speaking at events**
- 2 - stand against discrimination and unfair treatment in schools and communities, by raising awareness, networking with local organisations, services, current diverse and inclusive groups and to identify issues, attend events and activities. I'll work alongside teaching staff to exploring school bullying policies, and urge schools to improve responses to discrimination, and create / improve effective safe spaces**
- 4- Survey students attitudes to and understanding of politics and assess current political education and literacy in Somerset schools**
- 3 - push for better political education so we can understand the world beyond Tik Tok headlines by creating fun, interesting resources and opportunities for young people to engage in activities in schools that will give them a broader idea of the democratic society we live in. I will appeal to government and schools to embed political literacy within the curriculum, in light of the UK Youth Parliament motion for votes at 16**