

CANDIDATE PROFILES



STAFFORDSHIRE
YOUTH UNION

ELECTIONS 2023-2026

Staffordshire



Meet your candidates

Cannock Chase — 7 candidates

East Staffs — 7 candidates

Lichfield — 2 candidates

Moorlands — 2 candidates

Newcastle — 12 candidates

South Staffs — 1 candidate

Stafford — 9 candidates

Tamworth — 8 candidates

Cannock Chase



Meet your candidates

Benjamin Welch

Cannock Chase High School

Charlotte Sault

Sixth Form

Darwin

Elliot

Oliver Bracebridge-Henderson

Thomas Craddock

Cannock Chase High School

Tiffany Oshindele

Cannock Chase High School

Benjamin Welch (15)_{Cannock Chase}

Hi I'm Benjamin. I'm eager to represent Cannock Chase and Staffordshire's youth and I would greatly appreciate your vote. I am a student at Cannock Chase High School and I'm in Year 11 and age 15. I am studying History, Geography, and Statistics as GCSE option subjects. I enjoy a healthy debate, and respect people's right to express opinions that differ from my own.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

Climate Change is an issue most young people care about considerably. This is because young people will be negatively affected if mitigation does not take place. I believe we have an obligation to protect our planet for future generations to come. Another topic I am passionate about is reducing Global conflict. Our generation has grown up in a period of international instability and conflict. We, as young people, are concerned about the consequences and dangers of involvement in conflicts and the possibility of escalation to a nuclear threat. Ending religious discrimination is crucial for the safety of young people, even more so today with the abuse many children face simply because of their religion or beliefs. It is imperative that our generation understands that acts of violence and hostility are never an acceptable way to challenge someone's beliefs.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I am a proactive listener, interested in other people's thoughts, ideas, and opinions. I look at the detail of a topic before forming my own opinion on the issue.

I believe in being respectful towards people, regardless of disagreements or contrasting opinions. I can work with people I do not necessarily agree with, as I have done for 3 years as a member of my School Council.

I have participated in Rotary debates where I have developed my understanding of other people's opinions and views, and extended my own logic, reasoning and evaluation of ideas.

Why vote for me?

I believe that young people have a valuable contribution to make in shaping our community and our future. I would like to facilitate this by being a spokesperson for young people.



My priorities

Climate Change

Large Scale Conflicts

Ending Religious
Discrimination

Charlotte Sault (17)_{Cannock Chase}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

At the moment, public transport seems to be a huge problem, with bus services being too unreliable and infrequent, particularly now young people are back at school. This is something that is affecting many young people and their parents, and must be addressed.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I am passionate about speaking up against issues that affect both myself and the wider community, and would love the opportunity to really make a difference. I enjoy seeing my ideas and input have a positive impact on the people that need it most. I am keen to represent the views of young people, even if I do not agree with them, because I understand the importance of speaking up for people who feel they cannot voice their opinion. Campaigning is something which I have done before in school. I really enjoyed it and would love the opportunity to do this again on a bigger scale. This would be a fantastic chance for me to develop my public speaking and leadership skills, which will be invaluable during my career.

Darwin Cannock Chase

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental wellbeing. Mental wellbeing is Important to me because I experience many times were my mental health was deteriorating for example I myself and many of my peers feel constant pressure by many "role-models" around us. By that I mean teachers but it is a common occurrence for students to dislike some of their teachers. Mostly just because a student doesn't "get their way" during a lesson but behind the "nice face" at a parents evening there are some teachers who like to abuse their authority. By this I mean they crush students emotionally causing them to feel anxious whenever in that particular lesson. All this stress is caused by an over reaction of the teacher and again an abuse of authority. This is only one example but this section would be way too long

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I am passionate about speaking up against issues that affect I would like to be a part of the Staffordshire youth Union as it is a great opportunity and experience. Not only would it be a great opportunity but it would be a great way to get my voice out there and speak for my peers and others my age who do not have a voice.

Elliot Cannock Chase

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

To hopefully make Cannock Chase the dream town for anyone to live in.

Oliver Bracebridge-Henderson (15) Cannock Chase

Hey, I'm Oli and I'm an inspiring lawyer who wants to make change in the world and wants to leave a positive long-lasting impression upon the world from Cannock Chase.

I have been working as a potwasher and waiter since the age 14 and have seen, worked and met a variety set of people who have each taught me how the world can be improved and changed for all. As well as this, I am an avid reader of a vast number of texts from the communist manifesto to The almighty Dollar to Lily Allen's autobiography. Furthermore, I have a passion in baking cakes, brownies, biscuits and bread which all allow me to spread a little joy and happiness upon the people I give them too – as long as they are edible!

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

Firstly, I believe that inequality is the greatest issue that faces young people today. For example, as someone who works a minimum wage job, I have seen firsthand how due to my age I have been discriminated financially. Minimum wage for under 18's is £5.28 versus that of above 18 ranging from £7.49 to £10.42 for the same job. As well as this, for those in the rural area we are also disadvantaged from those in urban areas due to amount of shops on offer for us - we have to travel in order to get that same opportunities, as well as funding from central government towards our rural areas leaving us in deprivation. Lastly, the education needs improvement in order to allow all the best quality for all no matter their parental economical position We need to reduce the development gap between the richest 1% versus the rest of the UK.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I have been a part of my school's debate team which allows me to be a very confident public speaker. Furthermore, I have brought up many issues at my school such as the utilization of the white, English teachers saying the N-word in Of Mice and Men or combatting the school's uniform policy to allow liberation of expression through the way I can construct a well-informed argument. However, I also enjoy taking interest in others way of lives which is why I took a huge interest in religious education and autobiographies.

Why vote for me?

I believe that you should vote for me because I will speak for what I believe is right and will always fight for the rights of others. I think if you allow me the chance to be apart of SCVYS then I will improve the world for the best!



My priorities

Minimum wage equality

Rural integration

Education

Thomas Craddock (15)Cannock Chase

Hi, I'm Tom Craddock. I attend Cannock Chase High School and I'm standing to represent you, Cannock Chase and Staffordshire's youth, in the upcoming Staffordshire Youth Union elections.

I have a passion for volunteering and serving my community, collecting for The Poppy Appeal every November and regularly tidying my local area.

I believe young people are the driving force behind change and as your Youth Councillor I will ensure each and every young person in Staffordshire has a say in what happens in their area, and the UK as a whole.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

I strongly believe young people should have as much participation in politics as adults in society, yet some see it as out of reach and miss out on amazing chances. I will use valuable connections within local and national politics to provide you with the chance to shape your future.

I also believe young people are affected by a lack of opportunities for them in society. Whilst there are many amazing organisations operating in our area, such as the Cadets and arts groups, these are not always accessible to everyone. I will work in conjunction with youth groups and the community to make sure every young person in my area has the chance to develop themselves.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

As a Lance Corporal in my Boys' Brigade Company and a Prefect in my school, I have developed strong leadership skills, organising and managing groups effectively. I also have over two years of experience as a Student Councillor and a Peer Mentor within my school.

As I mentioned above, I am also a keen volunteer, having raised thousands for The Poppy Appeal within The Boys' Brigade and helped to improve the appearance of my local area.

I am also proficient writing and using technology. I am confident using all of these skills to make connections for the benefit of others.

Why vote for me?

I will use my skills and experience to work within SYU for the benefit of you, the young people in my area, allowing you to be involved in the decisions that dictate your future. A vote for me is a vote for your voice.



My priorities

Supporting youth groups

School funding

Youth engagement in politics

Tiffany Oshindele (12)Cannock Chase

Hello everyone! My name is Tiffany Oshindele, and I'm delighted to meet you. I'm a friendly and enthusiastic Year 8 student at Cannock Chase High School. Aside from my studies, I have a few hobbies that bring me joy. For one, I absolutely love helping people. Additionally, expressing my creativity through drawing is something I truly enjoy. In my free time, you can often find me listening to music, coding, or watching intriguing documentaries. Most importantly, I cherish the moments spent with my amazing friends and family.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

- Climate Change:** Many young people are concerned about the impact of climate change on their future and the well-being of our planet. They often raise awareness, participate in environmental movements, and advocate for sustainable practices.
- Mental Health:** Young people face various pressures including academic stress, social media influence, and societal expectations, which can affect their mental well-being. Promoting mental health awareness and providing accessible support resources are crucial.
- Social Justice and Equality:** Young people are actively engaged in advocating for equality and fighting against discrimination based on gender, race, sexuality, and other identities. They strive for fairness, inclusivity, and justice in society.
- Education and Employment:** The job market is becoming increasingly competitive, and access to quality education is vital for young people's future success. They push for educational reforms and opportunities that prepare them for a rapidly changing world.
- Technological Impact:** Young people have grown up with technology and are concerned about issues like privacy, online safety, and digital well-being. They seek a balance between benefiting from technological advancements and addressing its potential negatives.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I would like to bring motivation, support and creativity. I have experience for being a team leader and helping team (e.g. Sports Day) I am good at listening, and I take particularly good notes and I like to organise

Why vote for me?

I promise to help teens find out who they truly are and explain the dangers of things that might affect a young person and what things might happen!



My priorities

Climate Change

Mental Health

Social justice and equality

East Staffs



Meet your candidates

Abia

Alyssa Ridgway

The DeFerrers Academy

Ava

Chya-Leah

Emelia

Lewis Haddon

Abbot Beyne School

Ricardo

Abia East Staffs

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Bullying because a lot of people especially young people get affected and traumatised

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

Because I would like to help anyone suffering with out issues.

Alyssa Ridgway (15) East Staffs

Hi I'm Alyssa, I like reading and listening to music. I'm excited to be able to represent Burton-upon-Trent / East Staffordshire's young people and would appreciate your support.



What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

I think that mental health and well-being of young people throughout the UK is very important. Young people have access to support but it may not be enough.

Another pressing issue is Climate Change/global warming, us (as the future generation) need to do what we can to try and combat this.

My priorities

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Enviroment

Support for all

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I am good at listening to others and working with others to improve something. I would like to help give young people a voice on issues that affect them.

Why vote for me?

I will support all youth throughout Staffordshire and do my best to make a change for the future.

Ava East Staffs

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

I feel strongly passionate about the mental health and the motivation of children in schools, and how exam pressure can affect this. In my experience, mental health, motivation and pressure are often intimately linked.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I want to get involved because I feel that I have had many life experiences that have effected me, and I would like to make sure that I have the opportunity to bring those experiences to the table, while representing other people like me.

Emelia East Staffs

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Girls rights in Africa and our futer regarding pollution and global warming

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

I have many thoughts about the issues that young people face but if I had to choose one it would be... Mental health. It's a big talked about issue , yet barely anything has been done about it, Young people are suffering alone and they do not know who to turn to. With exams just round the corner , it is a more stressful time as many are still unsure about their future and feel pressured. Amongst exam pressures there is also the presence of the internet and social media. Young people are vulnerable and are faced with harsh realities and are exposed to a cruel nature online. Of course it would be impossible to change everything over night , but even just one step can make a world of difference.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

For years now I have been participating in clubs , schemes etc such as young interpreters, student voice, DFA , equality and diversity committee and many more. Right now my soul purpose is to make a difference and help those who need a helping hand, people that are desperate for their voices to be heard. I'm very passionate about these topics and hearing the government merely mention them has filled me with an unexplainable sadness. I've said it once and I can say it a thousand times over- I want to make a difference. Being a young person myself I have dealt with issues surrounding the problem. Bullying , exam stress , influenced by social media. I know many other people my age that have dealt with a lot worse and this is just a step in the right direction when it comes to me helping our current and future generations of young people.

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[East Staffordshire]

Lewis Haddon (16)

East Staffs

Hi I'm Lewis, and I am a passionate individual from Burton who is eager to advocate for and bring about positive change for the youth in East Staffordshire.

Through my active participation in both local and national politics, I have developed my interpersonal skills and leadership abilities. I currently attend Abbot Beyne in Winhill, and I commonly recognise the issues many young people face.

I would be grateful for your vote so I can deliver on my three main priorities.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

From previous correspondence with young people and through personal experience, I have understood that there is a lack of opportunities within East Staffordshire, I aim to reduce this by meeting with youth organisations to discuss ways young people can get involved.

I feel that local crime and anti-social behaviour affects us on a national level too. By meeting with the right people and voicing your opinions, I aim to reduce this and create a safer place for us all to live.

We must empower a stronger community link, by getting everyone involved and making sure everyone has a say in what matters to them. This is something many young people face difficulties with and that's why I am to tackle it.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I have a strong communicating ethic and I can establish a good relation whilst working as a team and as an independent. I hold strong networks with many local politicians, which is great as it allows me to empower my voice and the voice of other young people. I feel as if we aren't given due consideration when it comes to decision makings, henceforth my experience, qualities and skills will help contribute to this.

Why vote for me?

I am extremely passionate and knowledgeable about politics, and I understand the concerns young people face. Voting for me will ensure that I deliver for the wider youth community in Staffordshire.



My priorities

More opportunities for young people

Tackling local crime and anti-social behaviour

Empowering a stronger community link

Ricardo

East Staffs

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

I want to encourage people to get their high potential and not be unpassionate.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I want to do this because I wanna make people positive and not negative. Get their self esteem up

Lichfield

Meet your candidates



Emily Richards

King Edward VI School Sixth Form

Tom

Emily Richards (17)^{Lichfield}

Hi, I'm Emily, and currently attend King Edward VI School. My favourite hobby is playing music: I absolutely love to play the piano! I am incredibly excited about this opportunity to partake in SYU, and possibly have the chance to represent the youth of Lichfield with topics that I am passionate about. I have previously participated in many extra-curricular and out-of-school activities, including hockey, netball, ballet and choir. Each of these clubs has taught me different skills, such as teamwork and perseverance meaning I have the perfect attitude for this responsibility.

I really hope you consider voting for me!



What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

I believe that the world can be very overwhelming for a lot of young people and can have devastating effects on their mental health. Many young people are being diagnosed with anxiety and depression, along with multitude of other mental illnesses, yet some do not receive the help they require.

In my opinion, the youth's perspective on mental health needs must be heard by those with the authority to help. Another issue I feel strongly about is that of knife crime. I think that lots must be done for the next generation when the number of stabbings in the UK is so high. I really think awareness of the devastating consequences of carrying knives must be amended. Lastly, I believe more needs to be done to improve the current state of the environment, and awareness needs to be improved to ensure a stable world for future generations.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

My previous responsibilities both in school and out of school have taught me lots of skills. I believe I am hard-working, a good listener and very organised. I can also handle the pressure of responsibility and will remain focused on my goal of raising awareness of the issues which affect our area the most. I will do my best to develop my understanding of the current issues by listening to the different opinions of the SYU team, to improve on the problems. In addition, I will also ask for the opinions of those around me for an outside perspective.

Why vote for me?

I will find so much enjoyment in making young people's voices heard, and hopefully making change to our area. I will be able to work well with other people, meaning we can work efficiently to help both the current youth and the future generations of young people.

My priorities

Mental Health Awareness

Knife Crime

Environmental Issues

Tom Lichfield

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

We are all seen as an negative group of the community and I feel This incorrect and want to change others views

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I want to make many changes towards the community and Lichfield and more . I also want others to have there say and want to include all

Moorlands



Meet your candidates

Catherine M (16)

School: Thomas Alleyne's Sixth Form

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Ensuring rural communities are heard and needs are met. Making sure everyone has access to education and improving the education system. Also maintaining a more communal environment for learning where everyone feels heard and understands that they are important. SEN is also an important part of our society and schools and often doesn't receive the help needed.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

It's vital that our society has representation from every aspect, including rural areas. Rural town can often be overlooked when it comes to being heard, public transport, and education that suits everyone. Staffordshire provides much opportunity for the people that live here and I feel helping to continue to improve this would be a great opportunity for me. It would also be amazing to see how local politics runs and to have a part in this process.

George (17)

School: City of Stoke on Trent Sixth Form College

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

The lack of strong representation within the political scene of our nation and the great neglect we receive from the government. We are the next generation and the people who will continue Britain's legacy as a free democratic nation and so we should be nurtured by the government and protected so that we may better the future.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I believe it is important for every young person to surround themselves with people of the same age but with differing opinions so that we may build one another up and become level-headed intellectuals and bring each other to account and not be stuck in our own echo chamber. I believe the SYU would provide that and I believe I am the perfect confident and humble team player which would suit this role perfectly.

Newcastle



Meet your candidates

Adam

Armaan

Ben

Corey

Emily

Leiarna

Newcastle-under-Lyme College (NSCG)

Lyla

Maria Lazar

Newcastle-under-Lyme College (NSCG)

McKenzie

Naomi

Newcastle-under-Lyme College (NSCG)

Patrycja

Shamiso

Newcastle-under-Lyme College (NSCG)

Adam Newcastle

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Poverty and inequality (economic and political)

Armaan Newcastle

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Because my mental health problems I want to vote funding and citizenship for the changes for peoples health wellbeing and to those people who are suffering that you are not alone.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

Because of my mental health problems and anxiety I want to raise awareness for mine and other people struggles

Ben Newcastle

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

We don't get taken seriously and I want to make a change

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

To give us rights to be taken seriously

Corey Newcastle

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental health

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

To make people more aware of the risks of a poor mental health in children

Emily Newcastle

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

People get told how to feel by adults when they should express it themselves freely first hand.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I would like to get involved to help put my mindset to use and help other people understand my point of view, this is because I know how it feels to be ignored when you have struggles like panic attacks, meaning I know what it feels like and is willing to put the effort in to think of new ideas to help people my age!

Leiarna (17) Newcastle

College: Newcastle College (NSCG)

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

I feel passionate about all issues that affect young people such as: Mental health, climate change, racism, homophobia and advocating for equality.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

As a young person, I feel like it is vital that young people use their voices as our future is dependent on it. I hope for a brighter and better world where people do not feel scared and a better eco friendly environment. As a neurodivergent person, I can think outside of the box as well as come up with creative ideas/projects. I also have a strong sense of justice which allows me to feel empathy when discussing cases such as hate crimes and the justice system.

Lyla Newcastle

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

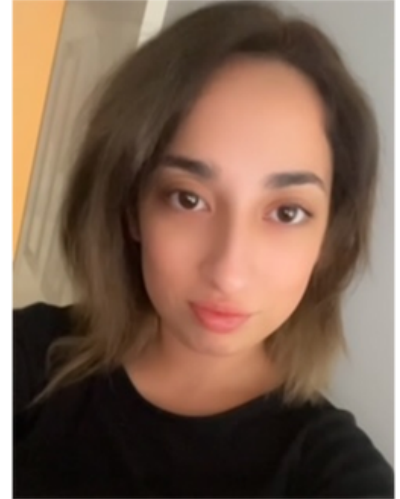
I am passionate about young people, viewing their opinions and views as equally important to be heard, giving students a quality education so that they can express themselves their needs and their passions. Young people's mental health as well, the care system and how adults affect children so much with things such as divorce. Im passionate about the planet, living sustainably and creating a better world for the next generation. Im passionate about the treatment of women in workplaces and increasing awareness of harassment as well as women's rights. I want to create an impact on how important it is to be loud and be difficult and empowering women to acknowledge their needs are not difficult, I'm also passionate about poor countries and the accessibility to sanitary products, I'm pro choice and believe everyone should have a choice to bring life and no one has the ability to decide other than parents, I think it's a crime to bring life to situations of which they are unwanted and unloved. Finally i what to increase the awareness of neurodivergence in girls and increasing diagnosis, to improve mental health as well as the accessibility to meet their needs and to increase awareness of these disorders

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I want to be apart of Staffordshire youth union because I am so passionate about making change for young people and meeting their needs. As a young person I see everyday the poor mental health, unmet needs of those with special needs as well as the injustice and lack of careless behaviour towards them, i what to create a world of equal opportunity, respect, empathy and a desire to educate and learn.

Maria Lazar (16) Newcastle

Hello, my name is Maria, and I study Level 3 Health and Social Care at Newcastle College. I enjoy listening to music and reading. I am excited to represent Newcastle and Staffordshire's youth. I would love to use your votes to make my community happy and to ensure that every voice is heard since happiness is what matters most to me.



What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

Mental health is quite a big issue, and it impacts young people the most. It's our duty to ensure that everyone has a good mental health, so it does not impact the future. A cause to bad mental which is another big issue is social media as our generation is mostly on social media, of course there will also be a bad impact on the teenager's mental health. Another big issue is that nowadays there's barely any youth clubs for teenagers to have fun, so they just end up isolating in their homes, this of course as well affects their mental health.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I'm quite passionate about the goals I want to achieve, and I think it will make SYU successful as I can convince the public why what we are trying to achieve is important and will accomplish our goals. I have also good communication I have helped in lots of past events at my school like open evenings which have helped me improve my communication skills, I also am a good listener as my family and friends describe me so it would help SYU as I can listen to what teenagers and young people want to change.

Why vote for me?

Young people should vote for because I will make sure that every young person is heard and will get the change that they want to happen.

My priorities

Mental Health

Social Media

Youth Clubs

McKenzie^{Newcastle}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental health

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

So I can make a difference in our community

Naomi (16)^{Newcastle}

College: Newcastle College (NSCG)

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

I feel extremely passionate about getting teenagers the mental health support they need

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I would like to be a part of the Staffordshire youth union as I would put my all into ensuring that people have the best support

Patrycja^{Newcastle}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Poverty

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

To help younger people get their opinions and feelings across.

Shamiso (16)^{Newcastle}

College: Newcastle College (NSCG)

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Knife crime

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

Because I want to be more confident and share my opinions

South Staffs



Meet your candidates

Charlotte Potts

Elective Home Education

Charlotte (15)^{South Staffs}

Hello my name is Charlotte, I'm 15 years old and live in South Staffordshire.

At the moment I am home-schooled. I enjoy studying Business, Economics, Math and Science the most. I am also passionate about yoga and figure skating. I have also participated (in the past) in Girl guiding, going from a Rainbow to a Brownie and then to a Young Leader.

These have helped me gain confidence, teamworking and community skills. I'm excited at the chance to represent the youth of Staffordshire and would value your vote.



What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why? I would say that the most important issue would be bullying, mental health and lack of support and resources in schools.

About 40% of young people have been bullied in the last 12 months and 1 in 4 young people were affected by mental health issues in 2022. These statistics are shocking.

I think that SYU should work with schools in Staffordshire to set up more resources to support young people struggling with bullying or mental health. These resources may include: teacher training, increasing the number of staff in the Mental Health support teams and having assemblies dedicated to the importance of speaking out and getting the help you need.

I want to make schools a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone and education available to all.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

As someone who has had experience with mental health and bullying I am extremely passionate about helping support young people. I am a good organizer and work well in a team. Due to home-schooling, I am very flexible with my hours. I can get my points across, but also listen to others and work with them to achieve not only my goals but their goals.

Why vote for me?

I think I will be a brilliant asset to the SYU team, striving to make young people of Staffordshire heard.

My priorities

Providing support for young people struggling with mental health or bullying

Improving the overall safety and quality of life for youth in Staffordshire

Creating more opportunities to those in deprived areas

Stafford



Meet your candidates

Caitlyn

Connor

Erik Sinulingga
Walton Hall Academy Sixth Form

Finley

Gracie Dean
Walton Hall Academy Sixth Form

Megan

Ollie

Steven

Thomas

Caitlyn (16)^{Stafford}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental Health and Local park safety

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

We would like to connect our organisation together to achieve a common goal and provide a platform for young people to share a voice

Connor (16)^{Stafford}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental Health and Local park safety

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

We would like to connect our organisation together to achieve a common goal and provide a platform for young people to share a voice

Erik Sinulingga (17)^{Stafford}

Hi, I'm Erik. I'm a student at Walton High School's Sixth Form. I enjoy playing the clarinet and piano, which has enabled me to learn useful skills such as hard work and determination. Thanks for your consideration.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

I believe mental health is the most important issue for young people today due to the lack of local services that specialise in helping young people with their mental health. I believe SYU can help make a change by raising awareness for the issue.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I'm a good team player and am willing to listen to the views of others. As a part of my Sixth Form's Youth Parliament, I helped conduct a survey, which highlighted the drastic need for young people's mental health services at my school. I believe that if I were a member of SYU, this could be implemented to a higher degree.

Why vote for me?

I am passionate about achieving my goals and am determined to make a difference.



My priorities

Mental Health

Local Parks

Discrimination

Finley (16)^{Stafford}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental health, poverty, anti-social behaviour

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

Would like to connect our organisation together to achieve a common goal and provide a platform for young people to share their voice

Gracie Dean (16)^{Stafford}

I attend Walton sixth form, I study Media studies, Business Studies, And Drama and Theatre, I am also apart of the sixth form youth parliament. I live in Stafford. I am a young leader at a local brownie unit, I enjoy skating, football and graphic design. I really enjoy helping people out and volunteering when I can.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

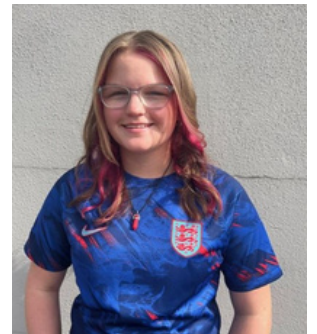
At the moment we are working on three main subjects in young people. Firstly, we are studying young peoples mental health and what the local area and schools are doing to help people with there mental health, we are also looking into antisocial behaviour which is a huge issue in the area at the moment around teenagers and young people. We are also looking at child poverty and the effect it has on there school life.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

I am good at working with people and enjoy leading a team, I am good at listening to other people's ideas and using them as best I can. I think that I would be a positive contribution because I like working in a team and taking on any challenge.

Why vote for me?

Il think I should be voted for because I am hardworking and I can take on any challenge. I can work with a team and use any ideas that get brought up and try to use them.



My priorities

Mental Health

Antisocial behaviour

Child Poverty

Megan M^{Stafford}

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I would like to be a part of Staffordshire youth union because I feel like young people need a bigger say in what will happen to our country. From mental health, education and the increasing amount of young people resorting to smoking gaping etc. I feel problems like this won't be solved unless you get the help off young people.

Ollie Stafford

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I am a very driven person. I have strong views and feel my voice should be heard

Thomas Stafford

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I would like to become a part of my districts youth union because I would love to kick start my career and get my voice across to my country

Steven (16) Stafford

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Drug use, I know some people younger then me who live in Stafford take drugs. Young people do not have a place to go with friends.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

Because I think it would be good to get my voice out there and make a change for other young people. I have experienced things in my life which i think may help others.

Tamworth

Meet your candidates



Courtney

Daisy

Emma Moore

Tamworth Sixth Form

Hannah

Nikola

Rhys

Samuel Stevenson

The Wilnecote School

Zack

Courtney (16)_{Tamworth}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

That young people get bullied so much and feel like they can't speak up for themselves out of pure fear.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I'd like to get Involved as my passion in life is to help people in any way shape or form

Daisy_{Tamworth}

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

have strong opinions about the support, and changes needed to be made for those of us under 18. I feel that I would make an impact with my ideas if they could be heard from people who can make that much needed change.

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[Tamworth]

Emma Moore (16)^{Tamworth}

Salutations! My name is Emma, and I am currently studying Business, Law and Computing at Tamworth Sixth Form. I currently reside in Tamworth, and have lived here during my entire lifetime. I am massively interested in politics, true crime and doing anything I can to benefit my future. I spend a large amount of my time preparing for my subjects and spending quality time with my family.

What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

In my opinion, the most important issues for youth, majorly in Tamworth, include mental health and our environment. Within the local area, there's a lack of social aspects, which has caused a rise in isolation amongst teenagers, and a sense of "boredom". Ideally, I think that SYU could have a large impact on this, and combat this to make Staffordshire a more social society.

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

As a young person from Tamworth, I have first-handedly experience many of the problems that the local youth face. I am a very good listener, who is able to understand complex and difficult situations. Naturally, I am a very organised person, who is able to easily communicate their ideas and opinions appropriately and effectively- which would assist SYU successfully. I believe I would make a great positive contribution as well, as I am able to easily work amongst a team and emerge myself with my surroundings appropriately.

Why vote for me?

I believe that you should vote for me because I will be able to work well amongst the SYU team, while making a positive impact on the community.

My priorities

Mental Health

Environment

Opportunities for
Youth

Hannah_{Tamworth}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental Health

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

To help people grow their strength back and change their mindsets on what to do in life and to think of their choices before something happens

Nikola_{Tamworth}

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental health and the stress most young people have to face.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I would like to get involved to help the health and well being of young minds so that they can grow and project a healthier nature.

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[East Staffordshire]

Samuel S (14) Tamwoth

I go to Wilnecote High School I'm studying Geography, ICT DT/Design Technology and double Science for my GCSE's. I'm also from Wilnecote which is located in a town called Tamworth. My hobbies are going out with friends and socializing I enjoy bike rides and gaming with friends online the things what most matter to me is happiness, health, and family.



What do you think are the most important issues for young people today, and why?

Bullying, discrimination, small lack of help after leaving school

I would like to speak for young people and because I understand and would like to make a difference for a better future

What skills, qualities or experience would you bring to SYU?

Confidence experience knowledge of what young people want

Good at listening useful knowledge good memory and experience.

Why vote for me?

Experience and confidence to speak for those with vulnerability and anxiety

My priorities

Bullying

Discrimination

Training for young people.

Rhys Tamworth

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Mental health because it is a big issue that young people shouldn't have to deal with. Also there shouldn't be as many people suffering with anxiety and mental health and I want to help support it.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

I would like to get involved because I like helping people and supporting people and I think this will be a great way to do so.

Zack Tamworth

What issue affecting YP are you passionate about?

Knife crime and bullying are two areas that I feel particularly passionate about because these need addressing in our local and wider community and they have a huge impact on our society.

Why would you like to be a part of SYU?

To have a voice, help change the way youths are sometimes perceived and help young people.