

My name is Maymunah Qasir. I am standing as a candidate for the MYP. I want to be the MYP to represent the youth of Wakefield, to be their voice and make sure their voice reaches the right person and is heard.

There is a lot I would like to do for the youth of Wakefield. From improving places to go like parks, tackling bullying in schools/colleges, drugs and cleanliness. This is already something I have been working on.

However, below are some of the minor improvements which I think have been disregarded. My first issue is I believe Young carers should have access to courses that fit their disabled person's needs just like other carers. This gives them a better understanding of what they are dealing with from day to day and gives them more confidence and makes them happier in their Young carer's role. This is essential for the mental health and wellbeing of carers. For example, my understanding of this comes from my own experience as a Young carer. Not long ago, I attended an Autism session which gave me more knowledge about my sibling's condition and explained a lot of unexplained things to me. Although this session was not available for 'Young Carers.' It was very informative and I learnt things I would have never known without attending this session. This should be available to every Young carer. I very strongly believe this is an advantage for both the family member and the Young carer.

My next issue is making travelling to and from school/college a lot easier. Bus pass application forms should be easy to access and pick up from schools/colleges too, not just from Wakefield One and a wait of 5 days to receive from the post. There should be extra support in schools/colleges around filling in forms and even posting out the forms for the young person and advice throughout the whole process. I have personally come across Young people as part of my voluntary work who had expired M cards and didn't know how to apply for a new one. This was surprisingly a few people.

Another thing that I would like to change is I would like to give religious headwear a colour. I have not come across any school that has anything written in any sort of letter or uniform book concerning headwear or the colour of headwear to be worn to school. Which means any colour red, pink, purple or multi colour can be worn from what I have personally seen. This step is to

ensure that every child is looking smart in their uniform representing their school and dressed in the same colour code and treating everyone equally.

Before I list why I am capable of being a candidate for MYP, I would like to explain the roles and responsibilities of an MYP. An MYP is a member of the Youth Parliament. This individual will meet with MP's and local councillors, organise events, run campaigns, make speeches, hold debates and ensure the views of young people are listened to by decision makers.

As a member of the UKYP I have had the chance to do all of this. I have taken part in many debates, met many important people and understood their roles and responsibilities in the community. Took part in many events, one of them was the B.O.F summit in Wakefield College where I got the opportunity to host. I have done projects and researches on my own initiative, to make improvements to Wakefield and it's residents. All based on surveys which I had collected from various different areas of Wakefield. Some of my research however, was taken by the West Yorkshire police. It was added to their research to later make use of. A police officer named PC Paul Fraser came to meet me in person for this. I have since then been working alongside PC Paul Fraser on the Feedback given by people on the surveys to make improvements.

My research for one area in particular was passed to PC Glen Costello, the officer in charge. I am looking forward to doing some work with him too.

To ensure the voices were being heard in my school, I came up with the idea of placing a box in school. It is like a ballot box where students, staff, visitors and even parents can post their concerns, issues, ideas of improvement and have their say regardless of whether that is inside or outside of the school. This is a very unique idea to make sure everyone's needs are being met, in a very busy environment with busy people.

This was all some of the work I have done with UKYP and on my own. Now, I have also done paid work for Wakefield Council where I interviewed candidates for the Youth worker role and contributed in finding the right person for the position.

I have huge experience and understand the role in every way possible. I will never disappoint you and will always be there to listen to you. Your needs will be my priority and I will do everything to make sure you will never be neglected. I will be your voice and make sure your voice reaches the right person. Your needs are my responsibility.

Thank you for your time today and all the best in choosing the right candidate for the role.