

Abi Chauhan MYP candidate for Surrey

About me

Hi, my name is Abi, I come from Surrey. I'm 15 years old and currently studying for my GCSES. I've always had an overwhelming desire to change the world and do something for the better. My aim is to create a more positive and inclusive world for all young people to feel comfortable to live and grow up in regardless of their background.



Scan to vote!

Key focuses

Period poverty

- More than **137,700** girls in the UK missed school due to not being able to afford sanitary products
- Access to information on Menstrual health is so limited due to it being a 'taboo' subject
- The average sanitary product costs **£3**
- I would like for all young people to be able to have access to information and products regarding menstrual cycles

Mental health

- The number of under 18's referred to CAMHS has risen by **53%** since 2019, escalating to over **1.2 million** in 2022
- Many young people have a decline in mental health due to worries of money due to the cost-of-living crisis or academic tolls and the pressures that come with school
- Its crucial that young people are supported and encouraged to get speaking about struggles.

Youth groups

- Since 2011, over **700** youth groups have been shut down with even more being closed since COVID.
- Many young people across the country need a place away from the stresses that come with home and school, and to feel apart of a community
- There is a greater need for youth groups for our generation. **1 in 6** young person in the UK experiences a mental health problem (since 2020) and more than **two million** young people come from unsafe homes.
- A youth group near them would give all young people a chance to find a place of shelter and safety regardless of background.

My experience

Feminism Society

- Over the past 4 years, I have run a feminism society
- In 2021, I helped with encouraging people to wear the colour red to support victims of gender based violence
- I have set up talk spaces and boards for people to be educated of different struggles and things to do concerning gender equality

Surrey Youth Cabinet

- I have been a member of SYC since November 2023.
- I have recently joined the poverty campaign, in which we are encouraging different places to do projects where books are more readily available to young people