

# YVOTE

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HANSARD SOCIETY  
Y VOTE MOCK ELECTIONS

STUDENTS  
18



**CUE CARDS** are designed as a step by step guide for students to follow in organising their election. They should be photocopied and cut up before being given out.

## PRESSURE GROUPS

Get heard! Even if you do not join a political party, you can still have an effect on what political parties do. So, how?

- A group of people who care about the same issue can get together and make a pressure group.
- Pressure groups try to get political parties to support their ideas. They do this by running a campaign about one issue or a few related issues.

Here are two examples of real pressure groups:

//**Greenpeace:** Concerned with a wide range of environmental issues including global warming and genetic engineering.

[www.greenpeace.org](http://www.greenpeace.org)

//**Liberty:** Concerned with protecting human rights and civil liberties and issues such as young people and asylum.

[www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk](http://www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk)

**Top Tip:** Why not decide on what you are interested in and then see what existing pressure groups are doing to change things to get some ideas.

## ELECTION TEAM PREPARATION

**Ready, set...** Without an election team, there's no election. The election team needs to get organised as soon as polling day is announced. They could be responsible for:

- Registering voters
- Organising postal votes
- Getting poll cards and ballot papers ready
- Preparing polling stations and ballot boxes
- Counting the votes

**Jobs:** There are lots of jobs to be done within the election team from stewards to journalists. It's important that everyone knows exactly what their job is, so draw up a table like this one and write it all down:

NAME	JOB TITLE	TASKS	DEADLINE

Use the Y Vote Jobs card to help you fill in the table.

## REGISTERING THE VOTERS

**Sign up!** Every student in the school has the right to vote. If they want to vote, students must be on the electoral register\*.

- Every form needs to be given a Voter Registration Form for students to sign up to vote. Your election coordinator teacher might ask you to get the forms ready.

**Y Vote?** Voting is not compulsory, so be ready to answer this question! Remind them that every vote counts towards electing the best party.

### Postal Vote

Your election coordinator teacher might ask you to register students who know they are going to be absent on Election Day so that they can vote by post. Students must fill in a Postal Vote Application and return it to the right person by the deadline

\* **Electoral Register:** a register with the names of everybody who has signed up to vote in an election.

