

DOUGLAS YOUTH COUNCIL

Your voice, Your City, Your future



What is the Youth Council?

The Douglas Youth Council (DYC) is a group of young people (aged 14–18) who work with the Council to:

- Share young people's views
- Influence decisions in Douglas
- Help improve the city for young people

Think of it as your chance to speak up and be heard on real issues.

Who can join?

You can apply if you:

- Are 14–18 years old
- Go to Ballakeemeen, St Ninian's, or UCM
- Are ready to get involved and attend meetings

We want people from all backgrounds—everyone's voice matters

How does it work?

- Each school/college gets 4 representatives
- If lots of people apply, there will be a recruitment process
- Members serve for 1 year

Applications open: September

Recruitment Process: October

First meeting: November

What will you do?

As a member, you'll:

- Meet councillors and share ideas
- Talk about issues affecting young people
- Help shape local projects and policies
- Suggest how funding (up to £20,000!) should be spent
- Represent other students—not just yourself

Meetings

- Every 6 weeks after school (around 4pm)
- Held at the Council Chamber
- Last about 1 hour

You'll also take part in events, projects, and discussions



Important expectations

To stay on the Council, you must:

- Attend meetings regularly
- Be respectful to others
- Follow rules and safeguarding guidance

Missing 3 meetings in a row (without a good reason) = losing your place

What can the budget be used for?

The Youth Council can suggest spending on:

- Community projects
- Youth events or campaigns
- Activities that benefit young people in Douglas

Not allowed:

- Personal payments
- Political campaigning
- Anything unrelated to helping the community

Your role as a representative

You'll:

- Talk to other students (surveys, assemblies, chats)
- Bring their ideas to meetings
- Report back what's happening

You are the link between young people and the Council

Safety & support

- Adults supporting the group are trained and checked
- Meetings are safe, inclusive, and supportive
- Help is available if you need it

Why join?

- Make a real difference in your community
- Build confidence and leadership skills
- Meet new people and gain experience
- Great for CVs, college, and future opportunities



Your ideas can shape the future of Douglas!

Ready to get involved?

Applications open in September – don't miss out!

Speak to your school or look out for announcements.

Visit our website:

