

## Activity brief - Register to Vote

This activity lesson only takes 10 - 15 minutes and acts as a way for students to register to vote on site. In this activity students learn about who can vote, the processes of how they can vote (in-person, by post or by proxy) as well as how to register to vote themselves.

## Activity objectives

At the end of the activity, students will:

- Understand who can register to vote
- Understand the different ways of voting
- Register to vote themselves

## Resources

- Slideshow – Activity: Register to vote
- Technology with search engine/ browser access and functioning internet connection e.g. Ipad, laptop, desktop.  
For example, this could be set up in a computer room, where the teacher presents on a main screen while the students sit and listen before the final activity of registering to vote.

**Suggested Lesson Plan:** 10 minutes



GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

POLITICAL LITERACY RESOURCES 2022 | REGISTER TO VOTE ACTIVITY

# No vote, no voice!

ACTIVITY | Register to vote

**SOUK** 

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**LONDON**  
VOTER REGISTRATION WEEK

## **Learning / Presentation - Objective outline and who can vote**

### Slide 1-2

The learning objectives are the following:

- Understand who can register to vote
- Understand the different ways of voting
- Register to vote yourself

## **Learning / Presentation - Why we register to vote and who can**

### Slide 3-4

Outline the point of registering to vote, which is to allow the students to vote in upcoming elections, both on a national and local level, as well as having a voice in decisions impacting them, their communities and our great city. Then outline the criteria for being able to register to vote in London, namely:

- Being aged 16 or over
- Being a London resident
- Being a British citizen
- Being an Irish or EU citizen
- Being a Commonwealth citizen who has permission to enter or stay in the UK, or who does not need permission

## **Activity - Different ways to vote**

### Slide 5

Outline to the students that there are different ways of voting (1) in person, (2) by post and (3) by proxy. This ensures that voting is made accessible in a variety of different ways. It is particularly relevant when people have circumstances which make them unable

to vote in person on the election day, if they are abroad or if they are unable to due to health issues. Highlight proxy voting and postal voting as measures which take this into account and offer alternative ways of voting to in-person voting on election day, at your local polling station.

## **Activity - Registering to vote**

In this activity it is suggested that you explain the benefits of voter registration and that all students have access to an appropriate device so that they can do the process together at once. For example, in a computer room with many computers set up.

### Slide 6

Explain why this is important and what are some of the benefits.

### Slide 7

Get the students to access the government website - Register to vote: [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

### Slide 8

Get the students to click the Register button and start the registration process. It would be handy if they knew their National Insurance numbers or could easily find this info.

### Slide 9

Tell the students that now they will be able to vote in upcoming elections, remind them that if they move address, they will have to go back onto the same website and re-register.

### Slide 10

Explain the different types of registers.

## Useful links

Register to vote website:

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>

List of eligible Commonwealth and EU citizens who can register to vote in London:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-10/List%20of%20eligible%20countries.pdf>

Link to postal vote information:

<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/postal-voting>

Link to proxy vote information:

<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-vote/voting-by-proxy>

Link to anonymous voter registration:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/register-vote/register-vote-anonymously>

Register to vote if you haven't got a fixed or permanent address:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/register-to-vote-if-you-havent-got-a-fixed-or-permanent-address>