Voting



Easy Read Guide



In the UK almost all men and women who are over 18 can vote.



When we vote we help to choose the people who make decisions about our country or our local area.



When we vote for the people to make decisions about our country it's called a General Election.



When we vote for the people to make decisions about our local area it's called a Local Election.

They are both very important.



To vote in an election you must be on the electoral register.

This is a list of everyone who can vote .

Part of Vote in UK elections		
Register to vote		
You can use this service to:	Part of Vote in UK elections	
get on the electoral register so you can vote in elections or referendums get on or off the open register		
update your name, address or nationality by registering again with your new details (if you live in the UK)	C they all steen	
This service is also available in Weish (Cymraeg)	1 Check If you can vote	
	2 Register to vote	
Who can register	(i) Hida	
You must be aged 16 or over (or 14 or over in Scotland and Wates).	You need to register to vote in elections and referencements. You peed	

You can register to vote online or download a form from the following website:

www.gov.uk/register-tovote

It's on yo	r National Insurance card, benefit letter,	payalip or PGO	
Forecast	nin, 00 12 34 56 C		
	f you've lost your National Insurance num It provide my National Insurance number	ber (operas in new tab)	
Explai			
	entity will need to be verified another way ort or utility bits.	. For example, with a	
-	you cannot provide your National Insur xplain why and provide suitable identity ould delay your application.		

You will need to give your national insurance number.

If you don't have one you will need other identification.



If you need help you can phone:

01274 431360

01274 432287



Most people vote at a polling station.

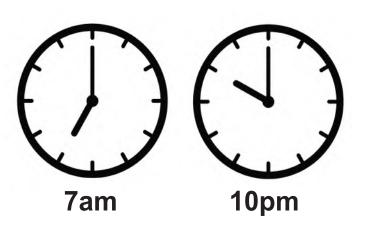
It's usually in a school or hall near to where you live.



A few weeks before Election Day you will get a poll card in the post. It will tell you where to go.



You don't need it to vote but it's useful to take it with you.

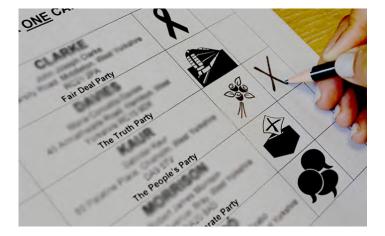


Polling stations are open from 7 in the morning until 10 at night.



The staff inside will ask your name and address.

This is to check that you are on the electoral register.



They will give you a ballot paper.

It has the names of the people you can vote for on it.



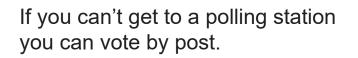
Take it to the voting booth so nobody can see who you vote for.

Put a cross in the box next to the name of the person you want to vote for.



Fold the ballot paper in half and put it in the ballot box.

Use this service to apply for a postal vote in: • general elections and other UK Parliamentary elections • local elections in England (including mayors)	Part of Vote in UK elections
Police and Crime Commissioner elections in England and Wales reformedums MP recall petitions	Sheek if you can vote Sheek
You must be <u>registered to vote</u> in the UK before you can apply. You must apply no later than Spin. IT working days before the first election you want a postal vote for.	2 Register to vote
Hyosi've registered to vote anonymously, apply for your postal vote through your local fluctoral Registration Office.	a Decide If you want to vote in person, by post, or by praxy
There's a different way to apply	() then
In Northern Incland for the Senedd Cymru (Weish Parliament), Scottish Parliament and local elections in Scotland and Weian using a paper form	Get ready to vote in person O See
This service is also available in Weish (Cymraeg)	or Apply for a postal vote
Start now >	In England, Scotland to Wiles.



You need to fill in a postal vote application form. You can download one from the following website:

www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote



Your postal vote will come about a week before election day.

Put a cross in the box next to the person you want to vote for on the ballot paper.



Fold it in half and put it in the small envelope and seal it.

Next you must fill in and sign the postal voting statement. Put this and the envelope with your ballot paper in the big envelope.



Make sure you post it in time or your vote won't be counted.

You don't need a stamp.



You can ask someone to vote for you if you can't vote for yourself.

This is called Voting by Proxy.



You must have a reason for not being able to vote for yourself, such as a disability.

432287.	eed help filling in this form please phone 01274
Address where you are registered to vote	Who do you want to vote on your behalf?
	Name (in full)
	Address
About you	Relationship to you (if any)
About you	Proxy vote for which elections?
First name(s) (in full)	All elections you are entitled to vote at
Sumame	Local elections
Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss, Mx, Dr, Other)	Parliamentary elections

You need to fill in a form to apply for a proxy vote.

You can download it from the following website:

www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote



Make sure that you trust the person you choose to vote for you.

Make sure that they will vote the way you want.



It can be hard to decide who to vote for.

The best thing to do is to find out as much as you can about the candidates in your area.



If they are in a political party you can look at their manifesto.

It tells people what they will do if they get elected.



Some of the parties make an Easy Read version.

Ask to see a copy.



Candidates will do lots of things before election day to try to get you to vote for them.

This is called campaigning.



They might put leaflets through your door or visit you at your home.



You might see them in town centres.

They hold meetings called hustings where you can go and ask them questions.



You should vote for the person who you agree with most.

Look at the things they say they will do if they get elected.



Remember it is your vote and your choice.

Voting words

Polling station The place you go to vote.

Poll card Tells you information about where and when to vote.

Ballot paper The piece of paper that you mark your vote on.

Ballot box The box you put your ballot paper in when you have voted.

Postal voting statement The form you must sign and send with your postal vote.

Candidate The people that you can vote for.

Manifesto

The document that includes what a political party will want to do if they get elected.

Voter I.D Info



You now have to show photo identification (I.D.) to vote at a polling station.

There are lots of different types you can use including:

- Passport
- Driving license
- Front Display This Way Up

 Issued by:

 Valid From:

 Expiry

 Date:

 No:

 Image: Control in the image: Con
- Bus pass
- Blue badge

It doesn't matter if the I.D. is out of date, but the photo must still look like you.



If you don't have any photo I.D. you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. You must be registered to vote before you do this.

For more information go to: <u>www.electoralcommission.org.uk</u>

and to apply go to: <u>www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-</u> <u>authority-certificate</u> For more accessible information on a broad range of subjects please contact



11-12 Eldon Place Bradford BD1 3AZ Telephone: 01274 848150 SMS / Text: 07535 120222 E-mail: enquiries@btm.org.uk

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