



Voting in the General Election 2024 Info Sheet



Approved by:



NDSPG
Advisory Group



made with
photosymbols®

With thanks to:



My Vote
My Voice

WORDS LIST

Some words often used in the general election are in **bold** and are explained at the end of this info sheet.

Voting in the General Election 2024



When we have a **General Election** we vote for the person we want to become the **MP** for our area to speak for us in **government**.



They make decisions about things like:

- education services
- how people with a learning disability get support
- how people with a learning disability get healthcare

Who can vote in elections?

To vote in elections you must be:

- 18 years old or over
- a British citizen
- a resident in the UK
- on the **electoral roll**





A **Member of Parliament** is also called a **MP**.

A MP is elected to speak in **government** for the people living in their area.

Sometimes we call these areas **constituencies**.

Political Parties in the General Election



There can be many political parties in each general election.

Every **constituency** will have a different choice of **candidates** to choose from.

Choosing your candidate in the General Election



When you vote you are choosing a **candidate** from a political party, not the **Prime Minister**.

The choices on the ballot paper will be the names of the **candidates** you can vote for in your area.

The General Election



A General Election is when the people of the country vote for the next **government**.

The party with the most **MPs** after a general election forms the **government**.



The Conservative Party won the last 3 **general elections** with the most **MPs**.

Their leader is Rishi Sunak and he is the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister is in charge of the **government**.



The Labour Party has the second-most MPs and form the **Official Opposition**.

Their leader is Sir Keir Starmer and he is the Leader of the **Official Opposition**.



The Liberal Democrats are also part of the **Official Opposition**.

Their leader is Sir Ed Davey.

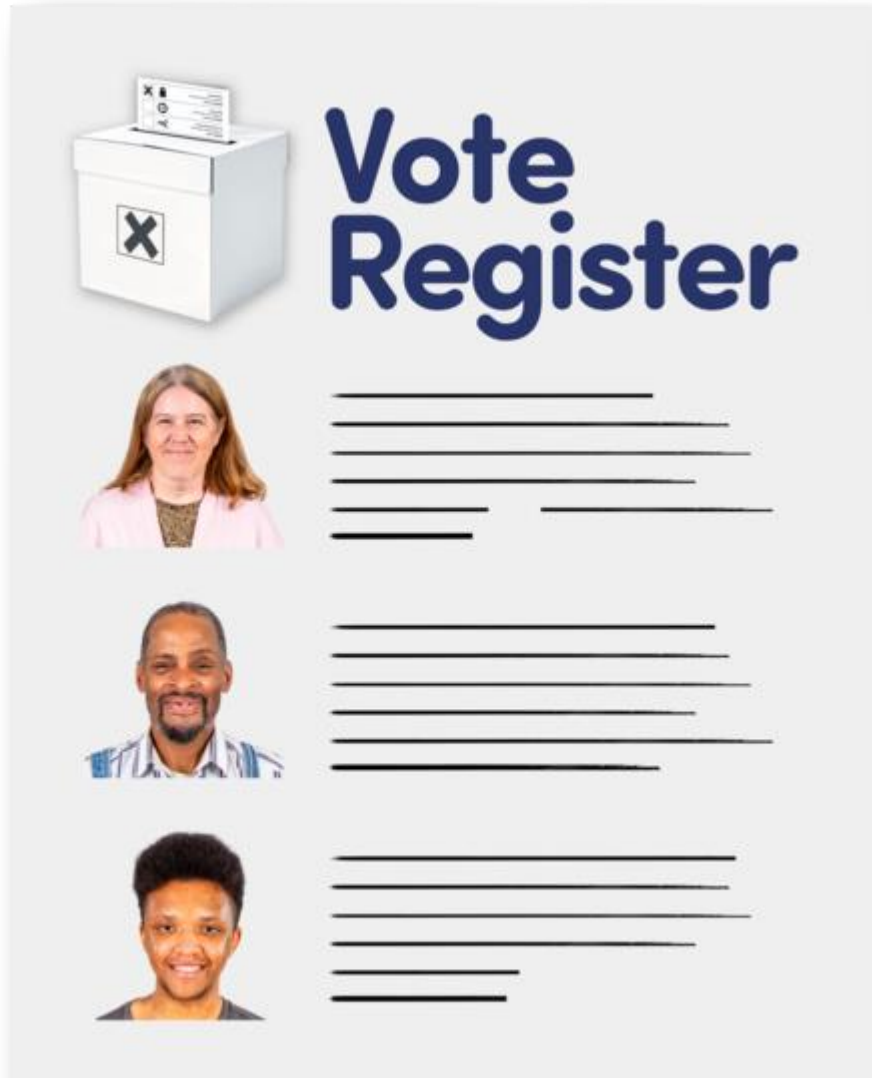


Each party writes a **manifesto**.

A **manifesto** is a list of things the party will do if they win the general election.

We can read the manifestos to help us decide how to vote.

Electoral Roll – Register to Vote



Register by 19 June

You must be registered on the **electoral roll** to vote in the **General Election**.

Your Polling Card

Poll Card	
Election of councillors to the Council	
Date of election : Thursday 2 May 2019	
Voting information	Your Name 88 Your Street Your Town AN35 8TT 
Polling day : Thursday 2 May 2019	
Voting hours : 7am to 10pm	
Your polling station will be Anytown Hall Anytown AN26 7NT	
You do not need to take this card with you. Please turn over	



Once you have registered to vote you will be sent a **Polling Card**.

Voting by Proxy

www.gov.uk

Proxy

- Labour
- Lib Dems
- Conservative
- Green
- Independent

Start now >

Register by 26 June

You can ask someone else to vote for you if you can't go to the **Polling Station** yourself.

This is called voting by proxy.

Postal Vote

The image shows a woman with glasses and a yellow shirt holding a white sign with the word "Signature" written in cursive. She is standing in front of a computer monitor. The monitor displays the website www.gov.uk with a "Vote MP" form. The form includes a red postbox icon with the text "Register before 19 June" and a list of political parties with checkboxes. A green button with the text "Start now" and a right-pointing arrow is visible below the form. A teal banner at the bottom of the monitor area contains the text "Register by 19 June".

You can send your vote in the post if you can't get to the **Polling Station**.

This is called a postal vote.

Voting in Person



This is when we go to the **Polling Station** to vote.

These are often set up in a school or village hall just for the election day.

Ballot Paper



This is a sheet of paper we are given at the **Polling Station**.

We make a cross in the box next to the name of the **candidate** we want to be our next **MP**.

Polling Booth



The **Polling Booth** is where we usually make our vote in person.

You don't have to use the **Polling Booth** to vote.

The Ballot Box



This is where we put our **ballot paper** after we have chosen who we want to vote for in the **Polling Booth**.

Reasonable Adjustments



My Voting Passport



About me

My name is: _____

I have a learning disability and/or autism

I need reasonable adjustments to support me to vote in the general election.

(List anything that will help you to vote in a polling station e.g. no waiting in long queues; not going in the polling booth; staying with your support worker; any other disabilities)

-
-
-

I also need: (tick any that apply)

- To be shown a large print ballot paper
- Someone to read out the candidates on the ballot paper
- Someone to mark the ballot paper with my decision

I would like this support from: _____

and (tick the option that applies)

- they are eligible to vote in the UK
- they are not eligible to vote in the UK and will need to work with the Presiding Officer to support me

You can choose someone to come with you to help you to vote.

They must be a UK citizen and bring their own photo ID.

You can ask for help to vote, like reading out the ballot paper or mark the paper for you.

Reasonable Adjustments

Know My Rights



Anyone with a learning disability is entitled to vote as long as:

- They are over 18
- They are resident in the UK
- They are a citizen of Britain, Northern Ireland or the Commonwealth

Mental Capacity Act (2005)

Section 29 of this act states that voting rights should not be impacted by my mental capacity.

Electoral Administration Act (2006)

Section 73 of this act removes any limitations on me voting based on my mental state.

Equality Act (2010)

Section 20 of this act places a duty to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate my disability/ies.

What other people can do:

- Explain the ballot options to me
- Use their knowledge of my communication methods to understand who I want to vote for
- Come into the polling booth with me
- Mark the ballot paper with my decision.

What other people can't do:

- Make a decision for me
- Mark the ballot paper against my wishes
- Stop me from voting because I have a learning disability.

Proving life can get better



Dimensions (UK) is a charitable registered society number 31192R. Building 1430, Arlington Business Park, Theale, Reading RG7 4SA. October 2019

It is your right to expect reasonable adjustments to help you vote.



Important!



Your vote is your choice.

You must decide for yourself who you want to vote for.



It is up to you to decide.



Your voting choice is private.

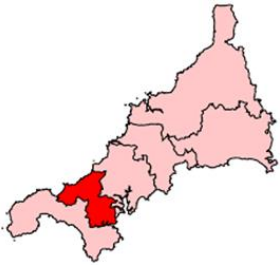
You don't have to tell anyone your choice if you don't want to.

General Election Words list



Candidate

This is a person we can vote for to become our MP in the General Election. There are lots of candidates to choose from in each area.



Constituency

A constituency is the local area that an MP represents in Parliament.



Electoral Roll

This is a register of all the people who can vote in UK elections.

You must join the electoral roll if you want to vote.



General Elections

This is when the people of the country vote for the next government.



Government

The government is responsible for running the country and is where the laws and policies of our country are made or changed.



Manifesto

A manifesto is a list of ideas and aims.

A political party or candidate use a manifesto to list their hopes for the next government, if they are elected.

More General Election Words



Member of Parliament or MP

A Member of Parliament or MP for short is elected to speak in Parliament for people who live in their area.



Official Opposition

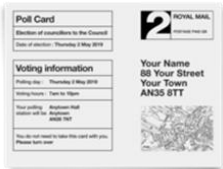
The official opposition is the party that came second in the last general election.

Their job is to challenge the government and make it explain its decisions.



Parliament

This is where the United Kingdom's laws are made.



Polling Card

This card shows that you are on the electoral roll, where your polling station is and when you should go there to vote.



Polling Station

A Polling Station a place that is set up in your local area where you vote for the candidate that you want to be your MP.



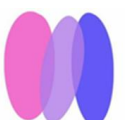
Taxes

Taxes are the money people pay to the government. The government spends this money on public services like police, schools and hospitals.

With thanks to:



Approved By



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