



Transforming Education Assembly

YOUR EDUCATION MATTERS

Resources for a Transforming Education Assembly



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Introduction

This pack contains all of the information you'll need to organise a Transforming Education Assembly in your area, your school or your youth club. Read through this pack and you'll find a draft agenda for your event, a letter for inviting speakers along, and some other outreach materials to help you get young people in the room and speaking about their education.

Transforming Education Assemblies are a key part of UK Youth Parliament's campaign with NUS which you can read all about [here](#). The manifestos created from these assemblies will feed into our National Day of Action in the Autumn.

Education is the fuel for our society and economy. It is the gateway to equality. It's where we'll find solutions to climate change. It's how we get qualified to get a job and re-train when the world changes. In the past year we have seen the impact that Covid-19 has had on education, revealing weak streaks that were already embedded in the system. And despite education being the key to our future, politicians have failed to deliver a coherent strategy in more than a decade, and overall spend on education has fallen.

The National Union of Students and UK Youth Parliament are campaigning together to build an education system which sees education as a public good, a benefit to all of us, and an institution to be valued like the NHS. Our ambitions are huge but that's exactly why it is worth doing. We're going to build a new National Education Service (NES) which is:

Accessible: Education should be available to all and we will break down the institutional and financial barriers which mean that is not the case now.

Funded: There should be a parity of funding between Further and Higher Education and more directed funding to meet social and economic needs.

Life-long: Students should be able to continue to learn throughout their lives, change career, retrain, and develop new skills. To do that we need flexible funding and learning opportunities attached to institutions with deep civic responsibilities.

This pack gives you the resources you need to organise and run a Transforming Education Assembly gathering young people together to share their vision for education. Once you've hosted your assembly, use the reporting template in this pack to let us know what young people have told you their priorities are for their education.

In the next few pages are some useful resources and tools to help you build and host your transforming education assemblies in your local areas and schools.

The Campaign

In the infographic below you can see a handy summary of the Transforming Education campaign.

You can see how we're beginning by hosting Transforming Education Assemblies and will use what young people tell us to form a campaign at the UK Government level calling for a new vision for inclusive education.

UK Youth Parliament + National Union of Students

Transforming Education

Creating and campaigning for a manifesto for inclusive education.

April/July 21
Host Transforming Education Assemblies in school halls and Town Halls; consulting young people and creating a Manifesto for Inclusive Education

Sept/Oct 21
Using the manifestos created following the assembly, we'll host a "National Day of Action" with the NUS. We'll be advocating that the young people's ideas are incorporated in the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review in November

Nov 21
UK Government announces how it plans to spend money in the Comprehensive Spending Review

Jan/Feb 22
Take part in the All Party Parliamentary Groups on Youth Affairs and Universities. At this event young people will respond to what the government has announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review and continue to campaign for their manifestos

www.byc.org.uk

Resources

Draft Agenda

To begin with, you'll need to think through what your event should look like. You can adapt this to your local context in loads of different ways, and what we've outlined here is just one idea! The importance is that young people discuss with each other their vision for a truly accessible, funded and life-long education system, that you capture their ideas and feed them back using the reporting template in this document.

Here's one idea for how you could do that:

*Our Transforming Education Assembly
05/06/2021 13:00-15:00*

Introduction

13:00-13:10

Have a ten minute welcome speech from your local MYP introducing our campaign, setting the scene, and making sure that everyone understands the purpose of the session. (You could also reach out to local school or university leaders, like a sabbatical officer, and ask them to share their thoughts)

13:10-13:20

Have a ten minute talk from a guest speaker on why we need an education system that works for young people. This could be a young person in your area campaigning on education, a local academic, someone from the NUS, a local politician, or anyone else you think has a vision for what our education system should look like.

13:20-13:30

Break or energiser – it's important to make sure people get regular breaks and have energisers at regular intervals to ensure they continue to engage in the session.

Group Discussion

In this section we'll use breakout rooms to help young people share their thoughts on education and what needs to be done to ensure it truly works for young people. Make sure there is someone to facilitate the discussion in each room and give young people 20 minutes on each of the following questions to discuss what they think.

13:30-13:50

Why does education matter to you, to the people closest to you and to our wider society?

13:50-14:10

What three issues or concerns do you have about the current education that need to be addressed?

14:10-14:30

What is your vision for an inclusive education system and what changes need to be made to get there?

14:30-14:40

Break or energiser

14:40-14:55

Ask every group to feed back their one priority in creating an accessible, funded and life-long education system. This could be:

- ***A principle to guide the education system***
- ***An education policy the government should adopt***
- ***A way young people should be included in education***
- ***Anything else they want to say about transforming education***

14:55-15:00

Close the session and share what will happen next with the comments they have made. Go back to our infographic and talk them through the rest of the campaign.

You can then use the information you've gathered to fill in the reporting template in this document. This will feed into UK Youth Parliament's campaign with NUS to transform the education system.

Speaker Invitation Email

Below is draft email to help you reach out to potential speakers for your Transforming Education Assembly:

Text in bold is subject to change depending on context

Hello ***Insert names***,

I am writing to you as the **Member for Youth Parliament for X** taking part in the UK Youth Parliament and National Union for Students Campaign, [Transforming Education](#). Our campaign aims to win an education system based on having a fully-funded, accessible and lifelong system of education for all. In the coming weeks we will be hosting Transforming Education Assemblies where we will hear from experts and young people will discuss their vision for a better education system. We will then use what young people say to build towards a National Day of Action in the Autumn.

I am writing to ask if you would be willing to speak for 10 minutes at our event on XX/XX/2021 to open the debate about the education system and be part of the conversations with young people during the event.

We are co-hosting 'Transforming Education Assemblies' with young people all over the country. The purpose of these events is to:

- Have young people lead in developing the vision for a transformed education system
- Ensure we are addressing the right issues for young people
- Find activists and build local groups across the country to continue the campaign

The conversations we have and the work we do in the meetings will provide the background and inspiration for what the education system must look like, what issues we must prioritise, and it will allow us to help support your current work with students as well. In short, it is your opportunity to help shape and lead a campaign to revolutionise education in our country!

Please let us know if you would be willing to speak for 10 minutes, open up the debate about transforming the education system and work with us to ensure young people from across the UK have a voice in shaping the future of education.

Many thanks,

Your Name

Email Promoting Your Assembly

Your Local Youth Council + National Union of Students – The Transforming Education Assembly

Education is the fuel for our society and economy. It is the gateway to equality. It's where we'll find solutions to climate change. It's how we get qualified to get a job and re-train when the world changes. Despite education being the key to our future, politicians have failed to deliver a coherent strategy in more than a decade, and overall spend on education has fallen.

UK Youth Parliament and the National Union of Students (NUS) are asking you to join our campaign to build an education system which sees education as a public good and a benefit to all of us. We're going to campaign for an education system which is:

Accessible: Education should be available to all and we will break down the institutional and financial barriers which mean that is not the case now.

Funded: There should be a parity of funding between Further and Higher Education and more directed funding to meet social and economic needs.

Life-long: Students should be able to continue to learn throughout their lives, change career, retrain, and develop new skills. To do that we need flexible funding and learning opportunities attached to institutions with deep civic responsibilities.

But we need YOU to help us shape the education system beyond these principles. That is why we are co-hosting one of NUS' Transforming Education Assemblies which are being held all over the UK. This is a unique opportunity to help lead a national campaign to transform the UK education system forever.

In this forum you will have the opportunity to:

Hear from **Insert name of Speaker** about the campaign

Hear a local guest speaker ***insert name/title here*** comment on the campaign and the vision

Lead the session, tell us about the issues you're facing on the ground and co-create UK Youth Parliament's vision to transform the education system.

Read more about the Transforming Education campaign here: <https://www.byc.org.uk/uk-youth-parliament/uk-youth-parliament-campaigns/2021/transforming-education>

Watch NUS' President Zamzam Ibrahim speech launching the National Education Service campaign here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8z5qqn-3NIM>

Reporting Template

Once you have held your assembly you'll need to let us know what was discussed and how young people think education should look. Please fill in this typeform to let us know what young people said: <https://britishyouthcouncil.typeform.com/to/thtJEy93>

You can use the template below to capture the information at the assembly which you can then put into the type form.

Please also feel free to send BYC any pictures or helpful resources which could be useful for other groups.

NUS x BYC: Transforming Education Assemblies

Reporting

Thanks so much for running a Transforming Education Assembly! You are part of a movement which is working to change education for the better every day.

Now, tell us how it went, so that we can feed your ideas into our national movement!

Event details

Details	
Your name	
Email Address	
Event Details	
Where did you host your Assembly?	
Did you have an external speaker? If so, who?	
(Roughly) how many people attended?	
What did you talk about?	
What were the top three points raised in the group when you talked about why education matters?	
What were the top three points raised in the group when you talked about what your issues and concerns with education right now are?	
What were the top three points raised in the group when you talked about the changes you would make right now if you could?	
Our next steps	
What one tip would you give to someone who was running a Transforming Education Assembly?	
Have you got any feedback for us about how we can support you better?	
We want to make a load of noise about funding education on a Day of Action in	

September. **Can we (BYC and NUS) get in touch to chat to you about that?**