



Nottingham
City Council

**CHILD
FRIENDLY**
Creative City



Primary Parliament 2025/26



"The opportunity to share with the rest of the group this builds on their oracy and leadership skills"

School staff attending in 2024

Primary Parliamentarians work together to share ideas, listen to each other and create presentations

What is Primary Parliament?

Primary Parliament is a termly opportunity for Year 5 and 6 pupil representatives from primary schools across Nottingham City to come together and have their voices heard. Pupils explore a wide range of global and local issues that matter to them and to their futures by working creatively with cultural and educational organisations, researchers and specialists. Primary Parliament is all about children's voices and the utmost emphasis is placed on collaboration, imagination and communication.

A partnership project between Ignite! and Nottingham City Council, Primary Parliament takes place over two days each term, with schools invited to bring four Key Stage Two pupils to the Nottingham Council House. Since 2020, Primary Parliament has included an online bespoke morning for children attending special schools in addition to their attendance at the Council House.

Over the past few years, children have shared their ideas on COP26, The Census, Welcoming Refugees, Transport Policy and Nottingham as a Child Friendly City.

Our key aims for Primary Parliament are:

- Develop children's confidence, communication skills and creativity
- Develop children's interest, understanding and engagement with the world around them, structures of power and information and decision-making
- Create a forum for local organisations to listen to children's views and ideas
- Platform the voices of children in Nottingham to wider city stakeholders



“It makes children aware that there is a platform for them to speak and be heard. This in turn teaches the children to be proactive.”

School staff attending in 2025

Primary Parliamentarians share their views and ideas with elected representatives from Nottingham City Council

What is Primary Parliament's impact?

Running since 2015, Primary Parliament has engaged thousands of children and regularly engages 26 primary schools per term. In 2024-25, we engaged 38 Nottingham City primary schools with a total of 387 children taking part in the programme.

Feedback from teachers tells us that Primary Parliament's impact includes:

- Raising pupils' confidence and communication skills
- Supporting secondary-school readiness
- Developing team-working and creative thinking skills
- Supporting Global citizenship and British values
- Giving staff ideas for leading the School Council
- Connecting with the community and linking with experts

Quotes from School Staff

"We sent some children who struggle to meet the expectations of our behaviour policy. Attending PP really gave them a different perspective in approaching interaction with others and more positive view of school life and the opportunities it provides. "

"Children are made to feel listened and valued during Primary Parliament which raises their confidence levels. Also, the presentation at the end gives them a boost of confidence and allows them to showcase their learning at their own level and understanding."

"It gives an opportunity to our children to be part of something meaningful and beyond their immediate neighbourhood. They can use and develop skills such as creativity, teamwork and leadership in a different setting than school and working together with children they don't know. This also helps with their confidence and raising their aspirations."



Primary Parliament takes place at the Nottingham Council House, lending a sense of civic grandeur to the occasion

Details for 2025/26

Autumn Term

Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th November 2025 - Council House
Thursday 27th November 2025 - Online

Spring Term

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th March 2026 - Council House
Thursday 19th March 2026 - Online

Summer Term

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June 2026 - Council House
Thursday 25th June 2026 - Online

Please register your school via the form [here](#). We will do our best to accommodate your first choice date.

This year, there will continue to be **no charge to schools** participating in Primary Parliament. This is due to the team securing funding from ChalleNGe and Nottingham City Council as part of Child Friendly Creative City.

Due to ongoing funding challenges, we may need to charge schools to participate in Primary Parliament from the 2026/27 Academic Year. Decisions will only be made after consultation with schools and we will do all we can to keep costs as low as possible.



A key element of Primary Parliament is always the mixed-school creative presentations at the end of the day

Find out more

You can read more about previous series of Primary Parliament by reading the blogs on the Ignite! [website](#).

Watch our [video](#) for a visual overview of Primary Parliament.

Register your interest for 2025/26 via [this form](#).



Read the blogs



Watch the video



Register for 2025/26

For more information, get in touch with the Ignite! team:
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