

## **Making Manifestos: Mock Election Resource (Secondary)**

Guide for teachers

### **Introduction**

The Education and Engagement service at the Welsh Parliament is a free service for teachers and youth workers across Wales.

There are a host of resources available to help you discuss the Welsh Parliament (also known as the Senedd) and democracy with your learners.

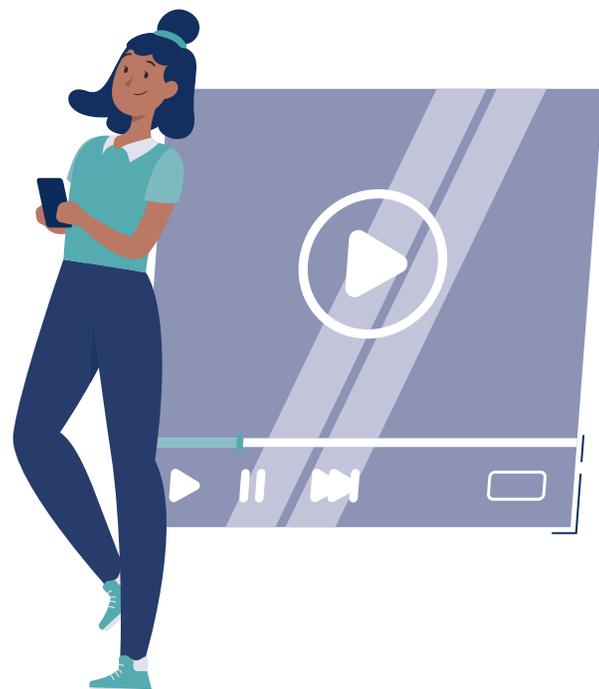
### **Teaching Resources**

We offer videos explaining the History of the Senedd, the Powers of the Senedd, the Members of the Senedd and Voting in Senedd Elections.

- History of the Senedd:  
<https://youtu.be/XdEKWmheXVk>
- Powers of the Senedd:  
<https://youtu.be/-wb1nVGaXwk>
- Members of the Senedd:  
[https://youtu.be/UrUBv2e4U\\_w](https://youtu.be/UrUBv2e4U_w)
- Voting in Senedd Elections:  
<https://youtu.be/ESe0z25Ylzc>



Scan the QR code  
to view the full  
video.



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The aim of this resource pack is to encourage pupils to enjoy learning about the 2026 Senedd election whilst developing a range of skills at the same time.

The resources are suitable for progress stages 4 and are relevant to the four purposes of Curriculum for Wales, giving pupils the opportunity to develop discussion and problem-solving skills by proposing ideas that are relevant to their local area and to Wales as a whole.

As well as the need to work together to solve problems, the use of a variety of language skills is central to the task. Oral and written language skills will have to be used for discussion, as well as putting together a manifesto, speech and campaign poster.

This can be a task for 2-3 lessons, focusing on putting together short manifestos for the party, presenting ideas to the class and holding a vote.

The task could be extended to be a series of lessons over half term by:

- drawing on art skills in order to design logos, posters and rosettes,
- using IT to create a PowerPoint or website for their party and/or create a video of their speeches, or
- increasing language expectations in the context of writing manifestos and/or speeches e.g. each to write their own speech, using full sentences explaining what the idea is and the reason for it.

### **Package content:**

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- A PowerPoint introduction to explain the task to the class.
- Instruction card.
- Subject cards: Education, Health, Environment and our Communities. These are cards that identify a topic that needs to be discussed before thinking of a solution. The topics are relevant to the work of the Senedd.
- A handout to record their manifesto ideas for each topic.
- Ballot paper.
- Rosette template.
- Announcing the winner template.

### **Additional resources that will be needed:**

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- Post-its' for ideas cloud.
- Felt-tip pens and paper to create posters.
- Scissors to cut out the rosettes.
- Glue for the rosette.



## Instructions:

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1. Divide the class into groups, these will be your parties for the election.
2. Each party will need to choose a chair to ensure that the negotiation is fair and that tasks are completed on time.
3. Share the resource pack with each group.
4. The chair should read through the instructions.
5. As a group each topic card should be discussed in turn.
6. Everyone can offer ideas on post its. If the group doesn't have ideas they could read through the questions on the back of the card to assist them.
7. The number of ideas or manifesto promises they offer and the detail depends on the time you devote to the session. If it's a period of an hour or less you can ask for one idea for each topic.
8. Each group should choose what ideas they want to include in their manifesto.
9. Then it will be necessary to ensure that each group has a speech, that everyone in the group has the opportunity to speak i.e. one idea each, perhaps less confident ones introducing the party 'we are the ....' party or closing the speech with 'Vote for us'.
10. Creating a colourful poster in order to showcase their party's main ideas, some can color and cut out the rosette.

Depending on the time you give to the task, responsibilities in the group could be divided into the following tasks: Drawing up a logo for the party, writing a speech, creating a Power Point and/or poster, creating a video of your presentation.



11. Give each group the opportunity to present in front of the class. To add to the excitement and experience you can invite classes from other year groups to listen to party speeches.
12. Explain that everyone will have the opportunity to vote and that it will be a secret ballot. There is no need to discuss with others or put a name on the ballot paper just X against the party name.
13. Fold the ballot paper in half and place it in the ballot box. Remember that everyone needs to vote including teachers and classroom assistants!
14. You can pick some to help with the counting by making a tally when marking the votes.
15. Use the script to further announce the winner of the election.

### Follow up work

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- You can graph the results.
- Look at polling statistics and compile graphs.
- Create a poster about the importance of voting.
- Researching voting rights and the suffragettes.
- Write a blog about the mock election.
- Writing to Members of the Senedd outlining your main policies.
- Pick one idea in order to petition the Senedd.

