

## **Manifesto Statement - Elli-Jai Williams 17yrs**

My name is Ellie-Jai Williams. Skills I would bring to the role of MYP in a practical sense are predominantly reliability, adaptability and determination: these are skills I have gained from my own life experiences, that have been challenging at times, and have now manifested themselves as things that I can use to help other young people on the Wirral in a productive way with my passion for politics, since these skills are necessary in any leader. However, I think my most valuable skills are those that help in an emotional sense. When representing Wirral through my voice, there is a need for consistent empathy and understanding, in order to ensure that my voice is a shared means that is accessible by all. Supporting young people has always been one of my greatest passions. Each day I strive to live out this passion through small steps like ensuring I am friendly and approachable amongst my peers, and by trying my best to lend a helping hand wherever I think one is needed. On the basis of these traits, my Head of Year chose me to take part in a two-day training course entitled Mental Health First Aid. My subsequent role as a mental health ambassador in school involves leadership skills and independence, as well as requiring me to feel confident in providing practical or emotional support to my peers. The relevance of these skills is that they are highly transferrable to politics: in my opinion, just politics always requires harmonisation with the art of empathy. The opportunity to extend my intertwined passions for both politics and helping young people through the role of an MYP is one I would be extremely grateful for as it is a mutually beneficial position for both myself and my community. I would ensure young people within my school community are involved with my work as MYP through announcements in assemblies and publications in our school magazine, as I feel these are some of the best means to reach people equally, ensuring that information is sure to travel further than my immediate social circle and age group. I would use the power of instant communication on social media to involve young people of the wider Wirral community. Attitudes and information are the top two things I would like to change about the Wirral – particularly information regarding what work experience opportunities are out there for young people in the North West. This is because work experience helps to make our UCAS forms more competitive and subsequently will increase the amount of applications and offers from top Russell Group universities and Oxbridge. Attitudes towards prestigious higher education like Oxbridge is another thing I would like to change, by asking teachers to encourage more young people to strive for the best of the best, rather than placing limitations on themselves by believing in outdated stereotypes. For young people who feel higher education is not right for them, I would like to make information about apprenticeships more vocalised and accessible so that all young people are presented with opportunities to succeed and excel. We are the leaders of the future – let's make it a highly educated one.