

Pledge to Young People



Jeremy

Corbyn

Winning

Values

Pledge to young people

“The Tory’s austerity program has disproportionately targeted young people and damaged their life opportunities. We will ensure that young people’s voices are heard in our country, the more young people participate in politics the better decisions we make as a country.

We will reverse the grip of destructive austerity on younger generations. Together we have written policies to strengthen young people’s employment rights, access to free education and measures to control a housing market which has spiralled out of control”.



My reasons for voting for Jeremy Corbyn are clear - he has a strong vision of transforming society to provide equal opportunities for young people across a range of services we rely on to progress in life whether it's in education, employment or the housing market.

Austerity has severely limited young people’s life chances. Our lives are less prosperous than previous generations, we are three times more likely to be unemployed than the rest of the population; most impacted by rising house prices and for those of us aspiring to a university education the prospects of incurring debts of over £50,000 is discouraging.

Jeremy Corbyn is the only candidate who speaks to young people. His policies actually address the specific problems we all face - his pledge to introduce employment rights from day one in a job will protect us from exploitative working practices; his policy to introduce rent control will ease some of our fears about where we live; and his proposed policy to scrap tuition fees will enable many of us to consider university education, free from financial curtailment.

Jeremy Corbyn sets out a vision of a country where young people are at the forefront of national policies, he is a politician committed to fundamentally transforming society for the better and I am pleased to support his Young Person’s manifesto to build a better future for us all.

Caroline Hill

National Chair of Young Labour

Achieving equality in employment

There are a number of employment rights all workers have when they start a job, but young workers have fewer rights and are disproportionately concentrated in low paid and insecure jobs. We will reverse the stark inequality facing young people entering the job market by creating genuine security at work for young people and as part of this commitment we will:

- Ensure young people have stronger employment rights from day one in a job, ending the scandal of young people having few rights at work because they are more likely to be on short term contracts.
- Tackle abusive employment practices which most affect young people stuck in precarious jobs and at the receiving end of the gig economy, by for example banning zero hours contracts.
- We will end the exploitation of young people and harmonise the minimum wage for all adult workers with a move as quickly as possible to equalisation of a higher, £10 living wage across the board.

Housing

Soaring rents and an overheated housing market have made home ownership impossible for the majority of young people. Not only are young people renting for a longer period than previous generations, a record number of young people are forced to stay living with their parents for longer to boost their savings in the hope to get housing of their own.

Our housing crisis is particularly hard on our younger generation and as part of our commitment to young people we will introduce a secure homes guarantee which will:

- Decisively deal with the blight so many young people face as private renters by ending insecurity in the sector, introducing rent controls and a charter of private tenants' rights
- End the hopelessness that young people feel about being able to own their own home by increasing the number of homes built each year to at least 200,000 and increasing access to affordable home ownership
- Create a new generation of council homes for those that can't afford to buy, building at least 100,000 council homes a year.

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A National Education Service for all

We will actively deal with generational inequalities through a National Education Service, open to all. We will prioritise the removal of educational barriers preventing young people from achieving to their fullest potential. As part of this commitment we will:

- Abolish all tuition fees in higher education
- Create a National Education Service, giving everyone access to good quality education from cradle to grave.
- Guarantee quality apprenticeships so that everyone can improve their skills while working.
- Reintroduce the Education Maintenance Allowance for college students and the Disabled Students Allowance. Bring all schools into local authority control, giving every child access to the best education.

Young people and the arts

We want our young people to benefit and contribute to Britain's arts and culture, nurturing the imagination and creativity of young people is crucial to developing innovative skills to express their ideas and will support the development in new creative industries. At the heart of our plan to rebuild and transform Britain, we will place a vision for a well-funded, independent, dynamic arts sector and as part of that commitment we will:

- Introduce a new arts pupil premium to schools in England and Wales, and will fund its introduction in Scotland
- Support the recognition of dance and drama as national curriculum subjects in their own right.
- Introduce a new bursary and scholarship scheme for the arts, aimed at improving access for disadvantaged students.

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Investing in the health of younger generations

Societal pressures on our young people are compounded by an underfunded NHS. Many thousands of young people are not getting the support they need because of long waiting lists and lack adequate treatment available to meet their needs. We will secure our NHS and social care for all and as part of this commitment we will:

- Secure the NHS for future generations by ending privatisation and restoring it to full public provision, ownership, control and administration.
- Ensure that student bursaries for nursing and allied health professionals continue.
- Give mental health service equality of esteem and end the scandal of underfunding which has led to suicide being the biggest cause of death for young men and scarred the lives of so many young people suffering from mental illness.

Action to secure an equal society for young people

We want to achieve an enlightened society where young people are fully able to participate in their communities and free from discrimination. We aim to nurture a new generation of young people to promote and implement equality and social justice and as part of this action to secure an equal society we will: Implement measures to create an equal and diverse society; we will tackle violence against women and girls, racism and discrimination on the basis of faith, and secure real equality for LGBT and disabled people. Achieve employment equality for young people by ensuring that employers are fully transparent and publish equality pay audits and data on recognised equality characteristics.

- We will deliver high speed broadband and mobile connectivity for every household, company and organisation in Britain from the inner city neighbourhoods to the remotest rural community to eliminate the educational, employment and social disparities faced by young people on the basis of their living surroundings.

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Action to secure our environment

Our action to secure our environment is much more than promoting green attitudes and behavioural change. Just as climate change and environmental destruction will affect every aspect of young people's lives, we want our environmental policy to weave through all dimensions of young people's lives, making our plan to save the environment a golden thread running through the life of every young person: social justice will be at the heart of environmental justice, our plan for renewables will create 300,000 high quality jobs, with underrepresented groups given access to the best jobs, and we will build at least 1 million homes to passive house standards, providing the homes young people need while reducing their environmental impact. We will:

- Act to protect the future of our planet for young people and for future generations, by working tirelessly to meet our Climate Change Act goals and international obligations. We will achieve a minimum of 65% of electricity generated from renewable sources by 2030.
- Accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy, and drive the expansion of the green industries and opportunities for young people in terms of education, training and jobs.

Improving young people's participation in our party and democracy

There is perennial worry that young people are not engaged in mainstream politics. Yet over the last year the Labour Party has seen unprecedented numbers of young people joining and the referendum campaign engaged young people in ways we have not seen for decades. We must capitalise on this new energy, creating reforms which allow more young people to be engaged in politics and changing the culture of politics so that it no longer puts young people off. We will:

- Lower the voting age to 16
- Strengthen the democratisation processes and increase the autonomy of Young Labour and reform representation procedures to ensure that office holders are representative of the diversity of the country as a whole.

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