



Dear Parent/Carer,

Please find below letter from MP Jessica Toale with an opportunity for our young people:

Dear School Leaders/Staff/Parents/Carers,

I am writing to share an exciting opportunity for your students **aged 13 and above** to have a meaningful say in shaping the future of Bournemouth town centre.

Over the past year, I have been blown away by the deep care and pride local residents have for our town centre. In conversations with constituents—whether on doorsteps, at coffee mornings and town hall events, or during school visits—it has become clear that the town centre's decline is a significant concern. Many residents—young people included—feel their voices are not heard and that decisions about the future of the area are made without their input.

That's why I'm excited to announce the launch of a **Citizens' Panel** in collaboration with BCP Council Leader, Millie Earl. This initiative will give residents a real say in shaping a tangible action plan for Bournemouth town centre's future.

We are looking for up to 50 engaged volunteers to work with me and the Council to develop an action plan for improving Bournemouth town centre. Participants will be selected at random and be fully representative of the residents of Bournemouth and BCP.

I am particularly keen to have a strong set of applications from the 13-21 age group, therefore **I'd be grateful if you could share this opportunity with your students and their parents.**

If selected, students will be asked to take part in five creative, three-hour sessions between June and November 2025. Throughout the process, they will gain insight into ongoing progress and explore additional opportunities for change. By the end, the panel will produce a concrete action plan outlining specific roles and responsibilities for key stakeholders, including the local MP, council, businesses, and residents.

The dates for the workshops can be found below:

· 2-5pm, Saturday 21 June 2025

· 2-5pm, Saturday 19 July 2025

Principal: Mr M Avoth

The Bourne Academy, Hadow Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH10 5HS

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- 2-5pm, Saturday 20 September 2025
- 2-5pm, Saturday 18 October 2025
- 2-5pm, Saturday 15 November 2025

If your students are interested in the future of Bournemouth town centre and are prepared to share their views, opinions and suggestions in a constructive way that can directly shape and influence the success of our town centre, please encourage them to [apply here](#) to be part of the Citizens' Panel before the deadline on **27 May 2025**. For those not selected to join the panel, there will be other opportunities to share their views and be part of the plans to improve Bournemouth town centre.

Here's a link to the [web article](#), [application form](#) and [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#) and [Bluesky](#) posts to find out more.

If you, your staff, or students have any questions, you can get in contact with my office at jessica.toale.mp@parliament.uk.

Kind regards,

Jessica Toale MP

Labour Member of Parliament for Bournemouth West

Principal: Mr M Avoth

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