

## A guide to talking to your Member of Parliament

How to talk to your MP:

Members of Parliament represent everyone in their area (in Parliament this is called a *constituency*). This includes everyone under the age of 18.

Although they have many official titles, they are people too though! They can be addressed as Mr or Mrs, or even as their first name. You can find out who your MP is <u>here</u>.

Some tips on communicating with MPs:

- Make it personal tell them your story: what led you to feel passionately about this?
- Talk about the real world and not abstract ideas use meaningful and emotive words.
- Encourage others your views are important and so are those of the group.
- Don't forget to give the MP time to responds to your demands but be clear what you are asking them to commit to.

## Introductory paragraph:

Dear N,

My name is N and I am in year N at N school. I have been learning about your topic at home. Here is what I have found out:

Include some of the most important or interesting things you have researched. A personal story is a good idea. How does this affect both your life and the lives of our global neighbours, and all people around the world?

I have some questions I would like to ask you about this:

You could ask what your MP thinks about the topic, whether they have any experience of it, have they debated about it in the House of Commons?

You could finish with something you would like to see change about your topic, such as an end to climate change, or fewer people needing to leave their homes and become refugees.