

**YOUNG LIVES
vs CANCER**



SENEDD

ELECTION

TOOLKIT

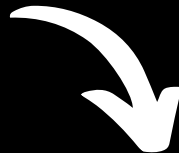
How to talk to your MS candidates about the needs of children and young people with cancer



YOUR ELECTION TOOLKIT

Hi! I'm Enlli,

I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2025 when I was 19. Like many children and young people with cancer and their families, I suddenly had to navigate the complex cancer care system.



After a cancer diagnosis, children and young people with cancer, like me, and their families are thrown into an unknown world, soon finding out that the impacts of cancer are more than medical. I found I was worrying about work, education and my social life, alongside my physical health, and it all stacked up.

My experience made me want to campaign with Young Lives vs Cancer to help make change for other children and young people with cancer and their families.

The Senedd elections in May are a key time to make change happen for children and young people with cancer. And for that to happen, we need your help.

In this toolkit I'll share some ways you can use your voice to help make sure election candidates, and the next Welsh Government, understand the important issues for young cancer patients and how they can improve them.

I'm excited to see what changes we can make when we work together.

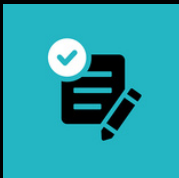
Thank you for supporting children and young people with cancer.

Enlli

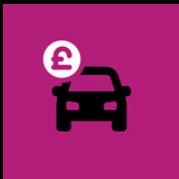


A MANIFESTO FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CANCER IN WALES

First up, here's a summary of the top five priorities that we want all political parties in Wales to commit to. We've chosen them because children and young people with cancer, and their families, tell us they need to change.



A dedicated strategic approach for children and young people with cancer



A Young Cancer Patient Travel Fund



Improved experience of diagnosis



Comprehensive support during and beyond treatment

The full version of our manifesto is available on [our website](#). It's got more detail about our top four priorities and why they are important.

HOW CAN I HELP?

There's lots of ways you can help raise the voices of children and young people with cancer. Here's a few!

Share our manifesto far and wide

Share the posts from our Young Lives vs Cancer social media accounts to spread the word about our manifesto. We want everyone to know about the issues that are important to children and young people with cancer.



Speak to campaigners who knock on your door

Candidates and campaign teams often knock on doors during the election campaign period. This is a great opportunity to talk to them about our manifesto and the issues that are important to young cancer patients, so they understand them and can support them.

Go to hustings or local events

Attend events happening in your local area, like hustings or debates, where you can ask your local candidates questions about supporting our manifesto and the needs of children and young people with cancer.



Write to your local candidates

Your local candidates might publish details on how you can get in touch with them. You could get in touch to share our manifesto and why you think they should support it. After 9 April, you can find a [full list of your candidates here](#).

Ask

"If elected, will you support children and young people with cancer?"



A Q&A WITH ENLLI



Why does the next Welsh Government need to prioritise children and young people with cancer?

"There needs to be better support for young people to access what they need to get diagnosed and to get the support they need during and post-treatment. This manifesto to prioritise children and young people with cancer would tremendously help support the work Young Lives vs Cancer are doing and improve future young people's cancer journeys"

Which manifesto points do you connect with the most?

"It all resonates with me, particularly the travel costs and improved diagnosis experience, along with better support during and post-treatment. These are just a few extra things a young cancer patient doesn't need on their plate. With me being 19 at the time of my diagnosis, all of this just made everything that much harder. "

Why is it important to speak to election candidates about these issues?

"Speaking about these issues to candidates is crucial for political parties to truly understand the strain young people and their families are under when facing a cancer diagnosis."


Why do we need to campaign?

"By campaigning for these issues, hopefully those who will go through similar experiences in future will not have to worry about these extra burdens and have to advocate harder for themselves just because of their young age. Cancer does not discriminate by age, and I am one of many young people who are here to prove that."

YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Senedd Election is on 7 May. To vote, you need to be 16 or over, and have to register by 11:59pm on 20 April 2026.

You do not need to show ID to vote in this election.



You can vote
if you're 16 or
over

AN IMPORTANT WORD ABOUT YOUNG LIVES VS CANCER

Young Lives vs Cancer campaigns on issues which are important to children and young people with cancer and their families. This is part of our charity's aims to improve experiences and outcomes for young cancer patients.

We campaign during the pre-election period to amplify the needs of children and young people with cancer to the people who will become our future MSs and next Welsh Government.

It isn't about politicising our charity. It's about raising the voices and needs of young cancer patients to the highest levels of decision making across Wales.

This means we'll contact political parties and candidates, but we are politically neutral - we don't support or favour any political parties or candidates. We want all political parties, and the next Welsh Government, to stand up for children and young people with cancer and support our manifesto calls.

Please keep this in mind when using this toolkit and talking about our manifesto.



FINALLY, A BIG THANK YOU!

From me, and everyone at Young Lives vs Cancer, thank you for helping us amplify the voices of children and young people with cancer, and their families in Wales.

If you have any questions or need any more information about this toolkit or campaigning during the election, get in touch with the Young Lives vs Cancer Campaigns Team campaigns@younglivesvscancer.org.uk.

Thank you,
Enlli

Young Lives vs Cancer want to thank Enlli for sharing her stories in this toolkit and using her voice to campaign for change for children and young people with cancer.

If you'd like to share your story, to raise awareness or be involved in our campaigns, please get in touch using the email address on this page.



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