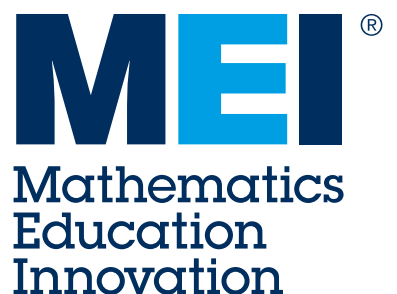




# About the MEI Young Persons Consultative Panel

An overview



Thank you for your interest in applying for a position on MEI's Young Persons Consultative Panel (YPCP). After reading this document, we hope you'll understand the panel's goals and what's involved, and we hope you'll be excited to contribute to MEI's work in this way.

The panel will be organised by:



**Claire Baldwin**, Director for Student Engagement



**Rachel Beddoes**, Stakeholder Engagement and Careers Lead

## Who are MEI?

MEI is a charity committed to improving lives through advances in maths education. We aim to raise the quality of maths education and improve social equity through access to high-quality maths education. We strongly believe that maths education is highly relevant for everyone – in the workplace, everyday life, and for active citizenship.

## Why have a Young Persons Consultative Panel?

To help MEI achieve our aims, we believe that the views of young people are vital. That is why we have established a Young Persons Consultative Panel (YPCP), consisting of 10 members aged between 16 and 26, and are inviting new members for a two-year period starting August 2024. Applicants should be aged 16 - 26 as of 31st August 2024.

The role of the YPCP is to provide insights, suggestions, and guidance to MEI on specific issues relating to the student experience of maths education and provide MEI with suggestions and guidance for how the organisation could help address the issues.

## Who should apply?

We welcome applications from a diverse range of backgrounds – we aim for the group to be as representative as possible in terms of gender, ethnicity, geographical location, background, and so on. Whether you are studying a mathematical subject at university, resitting GCSE Mathematics, taking a T-level qualification or using maths in the workplace, we want to hear from you. The crucial factor is that you are excited about working with MEI to develop young people's futures through maths inclusion, whether you are a confident mathematician and feel able to share your learning or can relate to the difficulties and challenges many young people face today.

## What would be involved?

The YPCP will have a minimum of three online meetings each year, around one per term. We aim to agree on the dates well in advance so that as many members as possible can attend. The meetings will be held in the late afternoon or early evening to facilitate fitting the meetings in around other commitments.

For some specific issues about which MEI is seeking information, we may contact a smaller subgroup of the overall panel; this might be via email or an additional online meeting.

We value the opinions of young people in shaping the work of MEI. Whilst we will always take account of the information provided, it is important for applicants to recognise that we might not always be able to act directly on the feedback due to other factors, such as staffing capacity, legal or financial restrictions, or weight of views from other sources.

## What is the time commitment?

We are advertising the roles to be for a two-year period in the first instance. We also know that your priorities and time commitments might change over time. That said, we aspire to have members of the YPCP who are with us for the full two-year period so that we can seek views on an ongoing basis and build an extended dialogue over time.

Claire and Rachel will be available to discuss any concerns you have regarding time commitments.

## Safeguarding and GDPR

As this group is likely to involve meeting and communicating with young people under the age of 18, and potentially with vulnerable adults, all successful applicants will be asked to complete an enhanced DBS check, paid for by MEI.

Members of the group will be asked to refrain from sharing personal information, such as their address, email address, or phone number with other members of the group. Communication outside of the online meetings will be possible via a monitored forum provided by MEI (see next section).

MEI will hold the contact details and application records of all successful applicants securely and confidentially for the duration of the term of being a member of the panel; two months after a member leaves the panel these records will be permanently deleted.

For non-successful applicants, records will be deleted immediately after the application processes are completed.

## Sharing information and ideas outside the formal meetings

To ensure that all communication between members of the group meets our safeguarding requirements, we will establish a private online forum to provide a mechanism for members of the panel to share ideas, links to relevant websites, etc. The forum will be monitored by a small group of MEI staff; all MEI staff have completed DBS checks.

## Questions

You may still have questions about the role – we are very happy to answer these. Please email us at [ypcp@mei.org.uk](mailto:ypcp@mei.org.uk), and we aim to get back to you within three working days.

Thanks for your interest in this work. If joining the YPCP is of interest to you, we very much look forward to receiving your application.

Claire Baldwin & Rachel Beddoes

