

Schools News



Special Report - How laws are made

Schools Project

Hi all,

The Young Fabians Schools Project aims to provide young people with information on the work the Government does and how it affects them.

The Young Fabians are the only think tank run by and for young people.

You can join the Young Fabians for only £5 for the first 6 months. If you would like to join please visit the Fabians website at www.fabian-society.net.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

James Green
Young Fabians
Schools Project
Officer

HOUSE OF COMMONS House of Commons

1st Reading

First Reading - The bill is first introduced to parliament so that people know that it is coming up for discussion

Second Reading

Second Reading - This is a very important stage where the minister in charge will explain the purpose of the bill and answer questions.

Committee Stage

Committee Stage - Most bills are considered by a small group of between 15 and 50 MPs. Here the bill can be examined and changes (amendments) can be made.

Report Stage

Report stage - Any amendments made by the committee are reported in the Commons for all MPs to consider. New amendments can also be introduced at this stage.

Third Reading

Third Reading - MPs vote for the final time as to whether they want the bill to progress or not. If they agree the bill goes to the House of Lords for them to

HOUSE OF LORDS House of Lords

1st Reading

First Reading - The bill from the Commons is announced in the Lords.

Second Reading

Second Reading - This is the main debate on the bill.

Committee Stage

Committee Stage - This is where the detailed scrutiny of the bill takes place. All members of the House of Lords can participate and propose amendments.

Report Stage

Report stage - This is a further chance to change the bill.

Third Reading

Third Reading - Last chance for discussion and, unlike the Commons, to make further amendments.

ROYAL ASSENT

Royal Assent - Once both houses have agreed with each other's changes then the bill goes to the monarch for Royal Assent. It can then become the law of the land as an act of Parliament.

Schools News



Keeping an eye on the laws affecting young people.

Diplomas

In March the Government announced its continued plans to provide young people between 14 and 19 with the opportunity to take a diploma. But what are they and why is the government supporting them?

What are diplomas?

The Diploma is a new qualification that combines class room learning with hands on experience. The Government believes that they will bridge the gap between academic and vocational options, providing young people with the best of both worlds.

What does that mean in practice?

Diplomas will cover a range of subjects including Engineering, IT, Science and Humanities. All Diplomas will require a student to achieve a minimum standard in English, maths and ICT, complete a project and do a minimum of 10 days' work experience.

Why is the Government supporting them?

The Government believes that diplomas will provide young people with more options when it comes to studying and will help them develop the skills that will stand them in good stead for both work and university.

For more information please visit www.direct.gov.uk/diplomas

Tell the PM what you think

The Prime Minister recently announced the laws that he wants to pass next year. But he wants to hear what people think about them before they become law. Here are some of the things he said....

The **COMMUNITIES** Secretary will set out proposals to give people greater power to influence local decisions.

We will establish a constitution of the NHS that sets out what patients can expect to get from the **HEALTH** Service.

We want to empower citizens, giving them more direct say on how **CRIME** is tackled in their areas.

To find out more about what the Prime Minister had to say and to let him know what you think please visit

www.commonleader.gov.uk/draftprogramme

