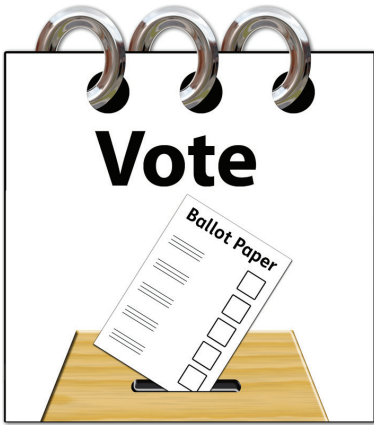


Guide to registering to vote



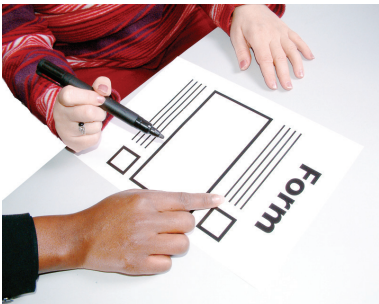
This guide explains how to **register to vote**.

It is important that you register to vote. You cannot vote unless you register.

You can find out more about voting on the Mencap website:

www.mencap.org.uk/allaboutvoting

Elections allow you to choose who you want to run the country and your local area.



To register to vote, you can go online to **www.mencap.org.uk/register tovot e** or fill in a form. A copy of this form is part of the guide. Please register to vote!



Guide to registering to vote *continued*



Completing an electoral registration paper form

The form has four sections:

- Your name
- Your address
- Other information
- Declaration.



Your name

You will need to write your first names, your last name, your title (Mr, Ms, Mrs etc.) and your nationality.

You may have changed your name in the last 12 months. For example, you may have become married.

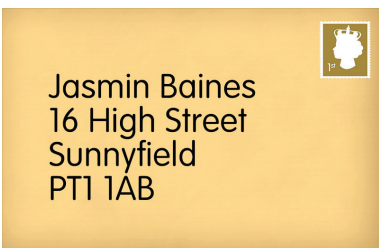
If you have changed your name, you should write your old name and when you changed your name.

You will need to write your date of birth.

Your address

Next, fill in your address and post code in the Address section.

You may have changed address in the last 12 months. You should write your previous address if you have moved house in the last 12 months.



Guide to registering to vote *continued*

Other information

Please write your nationality. You may have more than one nationality. For example, you may be English and Bangladeshi. You should write all your nationalities.

Please fill in your National Insurance number. You should be able to find this on your payslip or any letters about your tax or your benefits.



Declaration

Next, fill in the Declaration section.

You will need to sign your name or make your mark and write the date.

Guide to registering to vote *continued*



Now you need to post the form to your local electoral services team. They will make sure you hear about future elections before they happen.



Here is how you find out where to post the form:

- You can call **Mencap Direct** on **0808 808 1111**.
 - Tell the operator you would like to find out the address for your local electoral service.
 - The operator will ask for your postcode. They will then search online for the address of your local electoral services.
- Or you can search for your local electoral services on **www.aboutmyvote.co.uk**
- Once you have registered you will be sent a poll card when there is an election.



Show me the money

How will you spend the Government's budget?



Police and Security – includes police, work to stop people committing crime again, prisons, counter terrorism and drugs control.



Culture and Sport – includes funding for people to play sport, for museums and art galleries and tourism.



Defence – includes the armed forces (army, navy and the RAF) and military equipment in Britain and abroad.



Environment – includes flood prevention, animal welfare, pollution and climate change.



Education – includes teachers and schools, colleges (including training on vocational skills) and universities.



Health – includes doctors, nurses, hospitals, medicines and social care.



International Aid – includes assistance for people who do not have the food, shelter, education and health care they need and to help development overseas.



Welfare and Benefits – includes pensions for older people, support for people looking for work, for people with disabilities, carers and for families on low incomes.