Debate is one of the hallmarks of democracy and one of the best ways for voters to decide who is their preferred candidate. So, we will be having our own debate!

The debating style is taken from our Channel 4 Youth Leaders’ Debate, for an example of the debating format in action, please go to www.shoutoutuk.org/youth-leaders-debate-2015.

How does the debate work?

- Each one of the party leaders (candidates) will be at the front of the room.
- There will be topics selected beforehand that the candidates know, as well as two randomly selected topics.
- There will be as many topics as there are candidates. The questions will be asked by a moderator.

Each candidate will have the chance to have 1 minute of protected talking time. During this time, they will have a minute without interruption to speak.

Once each topic is announced, the first candidate to buzz/tap in will get the opportunity to speak.

Each candidate will have one opportunity to have 1 minute of protected speaking time. Once this has been used by a candidate, they will not get to have that privilege again.

After the 1 minute of protected speaking, the floor will then be opened up for debate. Once all of the topics have been covered, the audience will vote and decide who has won the debate.

www.shoutoutuk.org