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For immediate release

### Folkestone Mayor and Councillor visit school radio station

Folkestone-based school radio station Turner Schools Radio was visited by the Mayor of Folkestone Abena Akuffo-Kelly and Councillor Belinda Walker, who were representing Folkestone Town Council.

The two Councillors met Folkestone Academy students involved in Turner Schools Radio, the school-radio station based in Folkestone Academy and broadcasting online to students and parents. The students interviewed the pair at length about the work of local Councils, why they became politicians, what the main political parties stand for, and the importance of voting. The biggest points of discussion were on Folkestone's good points and also what needs to be improved, including improving the town centre and re-opening the Sports Centre where many students went swimming. The work of the Town Council was discussed, including grant support for community organisations and the range of events organised by the Council.

Turner Schools Radio's Station Manager David Sharp said: "This was the first time some of our students met the Mayor or a Councillor. Many young people are disengaged from politics and interviews like this are an important step in their engagement with democracy, and both the Mayor and Councillor Walker were really engaging and excellent at explaining what they do".

Folkestone Academy student Rosie said: "It was really interesting to meet politicians because normally we just see them talking on the news. We didn't previously realise what a Council did, and didn't know that they put on events like Armed Forces Day and the Air Displays, as well as supporting local charities".



*Turner Schools Radio is a school radio station that broadcasts online, and works with children at Primary and Secondary level in the Turner Schools Trust, with studios based in Folkestone Academy. To find out more, or to listen, visit [www.turnerschoolsradio.com](http://www.turnerschoolsradio.com)*

*Hi-res photos attached to email. More information: [david.sharp@turnerschools.com](mailto:david.sharp@turnerschools.com) 07811407635*