

Item 1

26th January 2023



Glasgow City Council

Education, Skills and Early Years City Policy Committee

Report by Executive Director of Education Services

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Education Services: Pupil Voice Developments

Purpose of Report:

To update the committee on the Education Services developments to support pupil voice in the city

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to note the update and Education Services work to support pupil voice across our establishments.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes No consulted: Yes No

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

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1 Background

- 1.1 UNCRC is central to the key national and local policy drivers underpinning Glasgow's Education Services. These include Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), Curriculum for Excellence and Glasgow's Towards a Nurturing City. These rights are embedded in policy and practice across the policy landscape providing a means for children's rights to be realised.
- 1.2 The previous work of Glasgow Education Services was reported on in August 2021 and further information and background reading can be found in that report.
- 1.3 The incorporation of the UNCRC bill into Scots law was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament in March 2021 but has been delayed after concerns were raised by the UK Government and subsequent ruling by the Supreme Court. Following this ruling, the Deputy First Minister for Scotland announced that subsequent changes would be brought as amendments to the original bill and the Bill will go through a reconsideration stage in the Scottish Parliament. It is hoped the Bill will be able to move to Royal Assent in the near future.
- 1.4 However, under Part 1, Section 2 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 places a duty on listed public authorities to complete a children's rights report. Subsequently Listed Public Authorities must every 3 years report on the steps they have taken within their area of responsibility to secure better or further effect of the requirements of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- 1.5 Following Glasgow Education Services committee paper in August 2021, a Children's Rights Officer took up post in the Education Improvement Service (EdIS). This report seeks to update on the progress of work to ensure Children's Rights are central to our work and that the voice of young people in Glasgow schools is heard.

2 Glasgow Schools Forum

- 2.1 Throughout Session 2021-22, the Glasgow Schools Forum continued to meet online, initially in area based groups and then latterly as a City Wide Forum. The Glasgow Schools Forum has developed and evolved over the last two sessions as face-to-face meetings have returned for our young people and schools. This session, 2022-23, the Schools Forum has met in the City Chambers Banqueting Hall.
- 2.2 The Forum continues to be open to all schools across the city to send representation for their young people. The Forum now meets in two separate groups: two Primary sessions, allowing up to 50 schools at each session to meet together and then the BGE group which is open to all Secondary schools and has representation from young people across S1-S3.

2.3 The Glasgow Schools Forum now meets monthly: on one day for Primary young people – two sessions with up to 50 schools per session and then the Secondary BGE Forum meets the following day. In all cases, schools can send up to 4 delegates per school to the City Chambers where the Forums are held in the Banqueting Hall. The Primary Forum groups are facilitated by Senior phase young people from our Secondary schools who are prepared in advance for their roles as facilitators.

2.4 Our meetings are based on the aspects highlighted through our Children’s Rights Framework which was developed through the children’s voice in 2021.

2.5 Dialogue sessions at the forum over the last year have included: The Curriculum, Developing the Young Workforce, Equalities, Climate Change and Change Impact Initiatives within schools.



3 Senior Phase Parliament

3.1 The Senior Phase Parliament is an opportunity to listen to young people from the Senior Phase of Secondary School. The initial meeting of the Parliament involved two representatives from each of our secondary schools attending a session in the City Chambers to be consulted on a range of issues that were important to them.

Young people were given time to discuss the following issues

- DYW
- Health and Wellbeing
- Equality and Diversity
- Learning for Sustainability
- Options
- Any other issues

The young people were then asked to identify the two most important issues to them. The overwhelming majority of young people identified Health and Wellbeing and Equalities and Diversity as the main issues for them to focus on this session. Feedback from the session can be viewed in the summary document (Appendix 1)

3.2 As a result of this consultation, a Teams page has been created and young people are encouraged to populate the page with what their school is doing in this area. There will be a further conference in March to allow us to assess how this model has led to positive change in our schools and demonstrate to our young people the power of their voice and how it can impact positive change.

4 Children's Rights Framework

- 4.1 The Children's Rights Framework continues to be used to support the work of the Schools Forum and Children's rights across the City. Groups of middle leaders from establishments across the city are currently working on developing links and content to support the implementation of the Framework in all our establishments. The work and content of this resource will be launched in tandem with a planned youth takeover event.

5 Rights Respecting School Awards (RRSA)

- 5.1 In August 2021, the Children's Rights Education Officer began working with schools across the city, developing the understanding and implementation of Children's Rights in all establishments. At the time of the post commencing the schools engaged in the UNICEF RRSA in the City were as below:

RRSA Position in Glasgow Schools

20/9/21

Schools RRSA Active 20/9/21 (schools active within 3 years)

Gold	2
Silver	2
Bronze	16
Registered	16
Schools RRSA Active	36

The current position is:

RRSA Position in Glasgow Schools 5/12/22 (schools active within 3 years)

Schools RRSA Active 5/12/22(schools active within 3 years)

Gold	4
Silver	6
Bronze	30
Registered	45
Schools RRSA Active	85

In promoting and developing engagement with the UNCRC, the Officer has developed an extensive CLPL offer for all establishments.

UNCRC CLPL up to December 2022

Number of sessions delivered number of staff who have attended

	No of Sessions	Early Years	Primary	Secondary	Total	Notes
RRSA Introduction	1	0	36	6	42	
Creating Class Charters	3	3	33	6	42	
Introduction to UNCRC	6	61	150	25	236	
Rights Based (ASN)	2	2	38	10	50	
Rights Based (Primary)	4	1	96	2	99	
Rights Based (Secondary)	1			12	12	
Rights Based Approach in Early Years	2	50	23	2	75	
Supporting children and Children's Rights	2	42	165	65	272	(483 signed up sharing PC)
Children's Rights Training - HSSW	1	3	4	28	35	(95 invited not signed in)
	21	162	509	150	821	

	Early Years	Primary	Secondary
Number of Schools	56	119	39

Education Services have worked very closely with UNICEF to train our RRSA assessors and trainers for the city. We now have a trained team of 4 and this will increase annually to ensure sustainability.

6 Girls 4 Equality

- 6.1 The Girls4Equality is a legacy from the Girls@COP26 event. Girls:COP26 was the flagship event within Education Services in November 2021 when the eyes of the world were on Glasgow. This event brought 2,500 young women from all over the City together to focus on SDG 5. The young women were invited to be part of panel discussions with women from all over the world on a broad range of issues that impacted upon them including STEM, Economy and Community. This was reported on at committee in November 2022.

Girls4Equality is an opportunity for young women across our schools, to get together twice a year, timed to coincide with International Women's Day and International Day of the Girl, to revisit these themes and crucially to share ideas about how our schools can progress gender equality within all our establishments. In addition to this, a Teams page has been created so the girls have access to a communication channel all year to share their ideas and contribute to existing and emerging world events. The summary document with further information is available here, (Appendix 2)

7 Young Leaders Project: West Partnership

- 7.1 The Young Leaders of Learning Programme (YLL), linked to articles 12 and 13 allows young people the opportunity to share their views about what is important to them in their lives and to shape educational experiences.
- 7.2 Schools participating in this programme are supporting their own self-evaluation and school improvement activities by involving learners in the process.
- 7.3 Staff and up to 8 Young people from 33 Glasgow schools. (24 Primary, 7 secondary and 2 ASN Secondary) have been trained by a West Partnership team using training materials from Student Partnerships in Quality Scotland (SPARQS), is an organisation that promotes student engagement in the quality of learning and teaching in Scotland's universities, colleges, and schools.)
- 7.4 YLL ensures the young people are actively involved in on-going self-evaluation activities leading to improvement by:
- taking part in reciprocal visits to other schools to identify what is working well, areas for improvement and effective practice. This year's theme is Health and Well Being (Schools are matched within our 3 geographical areas. One South school has been matched with a local South Lanarkshire school):
 - promoting ways that children and young people can be involved in school improvement activities in their own school; and
 - children and young people take leads roles in taking forward identified actions from the visits, with the support of school staff
- 7.5 Evidence so far suggests that YLLs develop confidence, communication skills and other organisational ability.
- 7.6 YLL is supported by the Children's Rights Lead officer including a Support session in February, Teams group with resources and a celebration event in June.

8 Transversal Working

- 8.1 Twenty six European Cities ran Future Mentor Programmes during Spring 2022 as a part of the European year of Youth. Glasgow Education Services engaged with the Programme. Our Future Mentor consulted with Glasgow MSYPs and the Youth Council, and discussed with City Leaders how Glasgow could better involve young people in decision making processes. This culminated with our Future Mentor developing 6 recommendations for the Euro Cities Annual Conference which can be found here: <https://eurocities.eu/latest/valuing-young-people-as-city-advisors/> Education Services set up the Senior Phase Youth Parliament as a direct result of this work.
- 8.2 The young people of Glasgow, Education Services and Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability colleagues began working on the co-creation of a Children and Young People's Climate Charter in May 2021. This 'Engage the World to Change the World' is an Intergenerational declaration, promise and challenge. It inspires all to become Climate and Carbon Literate and

empowers our young people to be active in rising to the challenge of the climate Emergency. It was launched during COP26 and continues to be a focus of LFS work. Climate Charter can be found here:

<https://stemglasgow.co.uk/Resources/DownloadResourceDocument/119>

8.3 Education Services worked in partnership with Glasgow Life and Bloomberg LP to drive forward Create4Glasgow. This has been an unprecedented participatory project building on the legacy of COP26. Since November 21 the young people of Glasgow and local artists in residence have worked collaboratively to create art works that raise awareness of local and environmental issues and inspire action.

827 participants, 40 school classes, 30 amateur artist submissions, 9 classes of art students. <https://create4glasgow.com/>

- September 21 – 1800 young people picked 3 environmental priorities: air pollution, water pollution, earth becoming uninhabitable.
- November 21 – December 21 – Ideas and art works submitted by young people across Glasgow
- February 22 -Young people voted for their 12 winning projects
- March – May 22 – workshops organised with local schools and artists in residence to develop the winning projects.
- December 22 – Impact Toolkit (Appendice 3) developed and being rolled out across the city with CLPL in early 2023. This will include Spotlight Sessions to empower the city’s children and young people to use art and creativity to engage in environmental and social change in their communities through planning impact campaigns. This is part of work around liberating the promise of learning through the ambitions of CfE and using the city and real life, as a classroom and experiential learning opportunity.

Next Steps: The work in supporting and ensuring Children’s Rights and Youth Voice in Education continue to be developed and supported. The following initiatives are now being planned and developed:

- In March the Equalities team are looking to work with the young people on ‘Allies 23’ and further information can be found in the Equalities Report.
- The ‘Impact Toolkit’ from the work with Create4Glasgow will be launched with accompanying Professional Learning for staff to support and engage young people with social justice and campaigning.
- Education Services will embed Children’s Rights Impact Assessments
- Child friendly complaints processes should be developed across council services.
- Working with young people, a ‘Takeover Day’ will involve and challenge Council departments to work with and engage with our young people and raise the profile of Children’s Rights. It would be hoped that elected members will also engage with our young people in this event.
- Young People will work with the Children’s Rights team to develop recognition for Council Departments and Third Sector partners who engage with and consider Children’s Rights in their practice and processes.

9 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: N/A

*Legal: Future work on
CRIA*

Personnel: N/A

Procurement: N/A

Council Strategic Plan: Specify which Grand Challenge (s) and Mission (s) the proposal supports. Where appropriate the relevant Commitment can also be listed.

- Increase Opportunity and prosperity for all our citizens (Mission 3 Raise attainment amongst Glasgow's Children and young people)
- Fight the climate emergency in a just transition to a net zero Glasgow (Mission 2 Become a net zero carbon city by 2030)
- Reduce poverty and inequality in our communities. (Mission 2 Meet the learning and care needs of families before and through school, Mission 3 Improve the Health and wellbeing of our local communities, Mission 4 Support Glasgow to be a city that is active and culturally vibrant)
- Enable staff to deliver essential services in a sustainable, innovative and efficient way for our communities. (Mission1 Create safe, clean and thriving neighbourhoods, Mission 2 Run an open well governed council in partnership with all our communities)

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.

Yes

1. (specifically related to training)
2. (development of BAME network)
3. (inclusion of all young people)
4. (gender based violence is a theme talked through this work)
5. 5 (hate crime training linked to this work)
6. (mental health and wellbeing focussed e.g. Respect Me)

12. (clear focus on equality and diversity)
- 13 (Equalities and discrimination are part of the Senior Phase Parliament manifesto)
- 14 (attainment for all)

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?

Positive impact

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

Yes – engagement in civic responsibility and accountability

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

Yes :-

Theme 1 Communication & Community Empowerment
Theme 2 Just and Inclusive Place
Theme 4 Health and Wellbeing

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

None

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

Yes

**Privacy and Data
Protection Impacts:**

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report
Y/N

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

10 Recommendations

That Committee note the report and promote engagement across the Council Family, Officers and Members.