

# **All Learners in Scotland Matter**

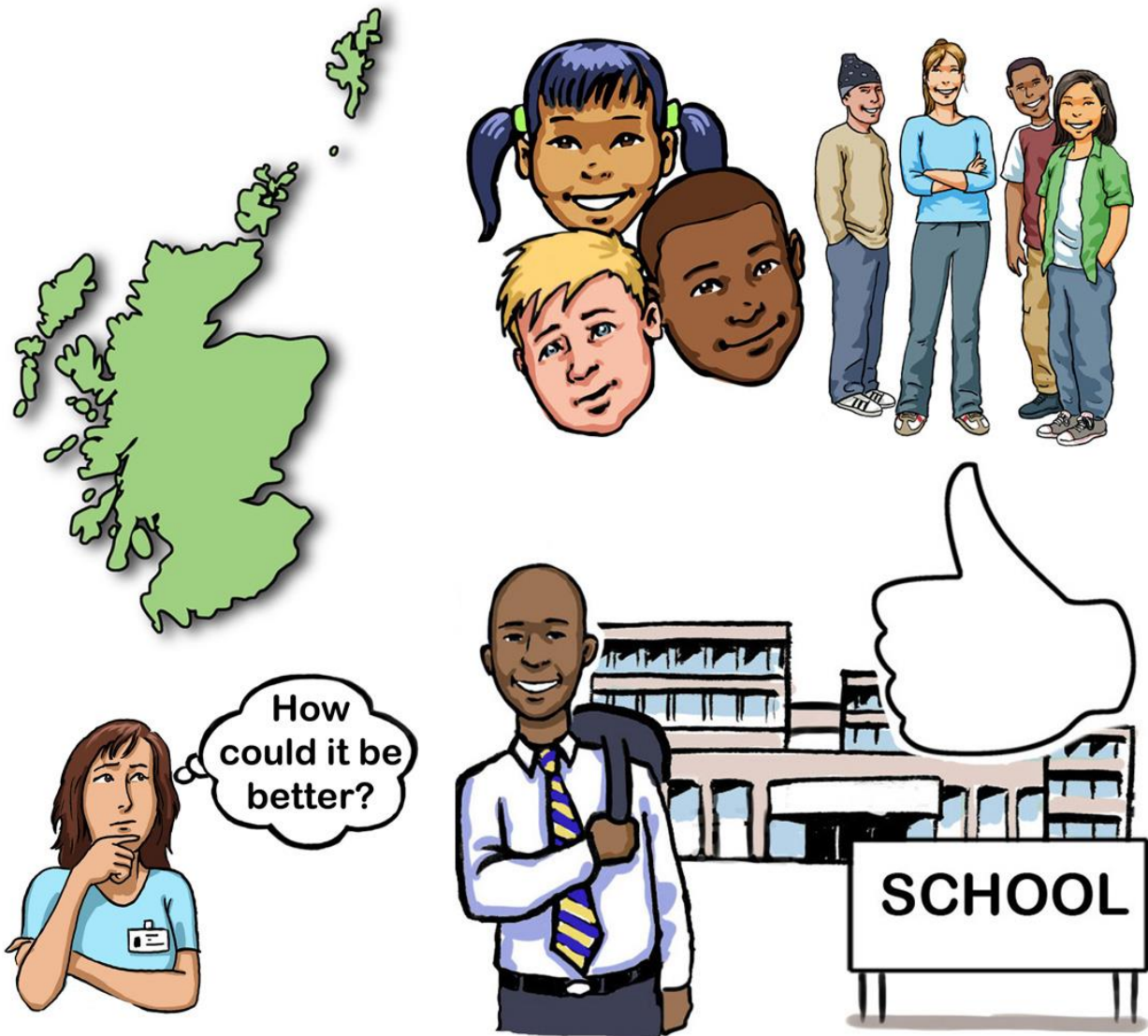
**The National Discussion on Education**

**Easy Read version**

**May 2023**

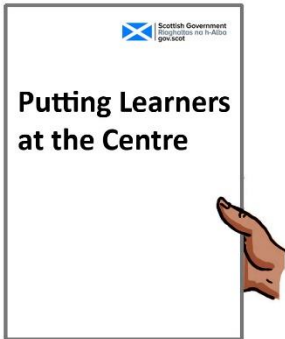
# All Learners in Scotland Matter

## The National Discussion on Education



Easy Read Version

# Introduction



We knew we needed a National Discussion about the future of Scottish education. We saw this in an independent report.



Many people needed to be involved in the discussion. Not just education organisations. The Scottish Government and the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) will work together.



# Overview of the National Discussion



The National Discussion on Education in Scotland was so children, young people, and supporters could have their voices heard about Scottish Education. It ran from September to December 2022.



The aim was to have a shared vision for Scottish education. We then want to say what we need to do to make this happen. We call this a Call to Action.



We worked with early years organisations, schools, other education organisations, community groups, voluntary organisations, youth workers, parents' groups, education professional organisations, local authorities, and policy makers. We involved everyone involved in Scottish education.



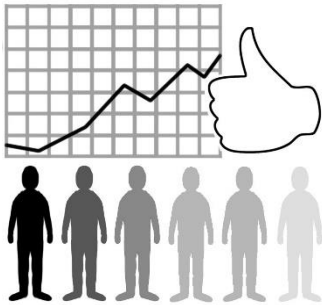
We also asked for input from parents and carers, school staff, teachers, other education and support staff.



The main question for the National Discussion was:  
“What kind of education will be needed by children and young people in Scotland in the future? And how do we make that a reality?”



We made sure the voices of children and young people were included. We did this through support groups or through their parents, carers, and teachers.



More people got involved in the discussion than we expected. Over 38,000 people took part. There was an online survey with key questions. This came in many formats including Easy Read.



Discussion guides were made by Education Scotland to help teachers, parents/carers and youth workers speak children and young people. We got 5,671 responses. Of these, 232 were group responses.



We took part in on-line and face to face sessions. There were 102 events held nationally and locally. We made these events as inclusive as possible.



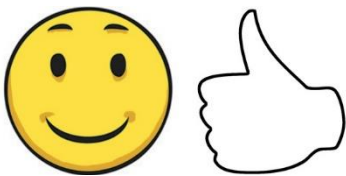
A successful social media campaign resulted in 10 million social media users seeing the hashtag #TalkScottishEducation. There were 6,000 Twitter posts about the National Discussion.



All schools in Scotland were invited to take part in the National Discussion. This included primary and secondary age pupils. Over 26,000 pupils and students took part in these.



We worked with education staff at all stages, from early years through to university. We visited schools and met with staff and learners.



We had a great response to our invitation to 'Let's Talk Scottish Education.' We want to thank everyone who supported us and gave their views to shape the future of Scottish education.

# All Learners in Scotland Matter - Visions and Values



The main message that came from the National Discussion is: **All Learners in Scotland Matter**. This message led us to the vision, values, and Call to Action.

## Vision for the Future of Scottish Education



Children and young people are at the heart of education. The education system has partnerships that include learners, the people who work in the system, parents, and carers.

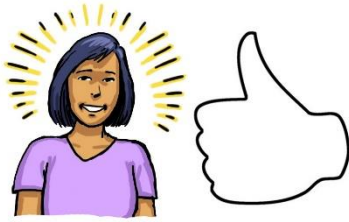


All learners are supported in inclusive environments. They are safe, welcoming, caring, and tackle any barriers to learning. Education in Scotland works with all learners to help them be all they can be.



Each child and young person in Scotland has high-quality learning experiences. These will respect their rights, who they are and the communities they live in.



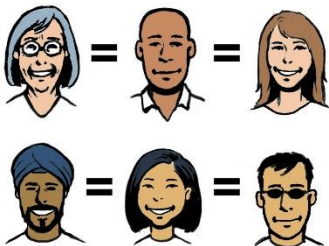


Each child and young person gets great teaching, and support. They enjoy learning. It builds their confidence and helps them to be successful. They can be a full part of their life, work, and world. They know how much they matter.

## Guiding Values



**Ambitious** – The Scottish education system will have high expectations for all learners. It will enable every child and young person to develop and become all they want to be.



**Inclusive** – The Scottish education system will value, respect and represent the differences of all children and young people. Everyone will have the same kind of experiences and opportunities.



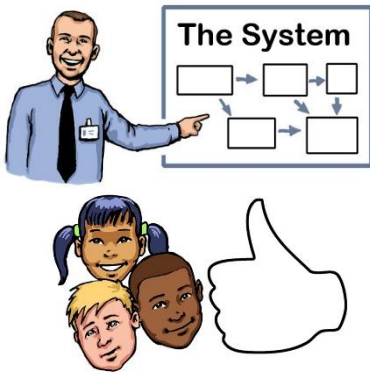
**Supportive** – The Scottish education system will involve every child, young person, and adult in the right way. Education will give all the supports needed for all to do well in life and be all they can be.



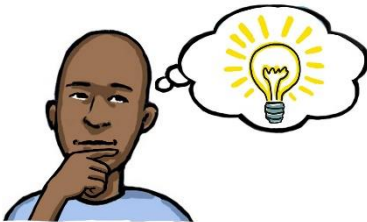
# A Call to Action



We have come up with a Call to Action based on the strongest messages that came from from the National Discussion.



Educating Our Future will need a Scottish education system that works well. It will support the rights of all children and young people. It will offer quality teaching and learning that suits the different needs of each learner. It will help them reach their goals and meet the needs of a changing world.



All learners should have access to the same learning opportunities and experiences. They should have choices based on their interests, needs, development, and ambitions.



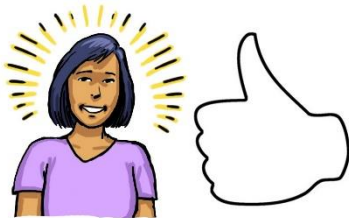
The experience of education and support staff is needed to give high-quality learning.



Long-term funding is needed to give staff the resources to reach our goals. This is very important for children and young people who have Additional Support Needs (ASN).



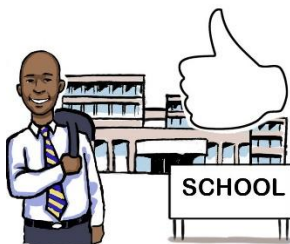
We need to learn and understand more about different people and places. This needs to happen in the whole education system. It must be safe and inclusive. It must help us have respectful relationships and tackle discrimination, harassment, bullying, and violence.



We need to learn about and support mental, emotional, and physical health. And support healthy relationships. This will help schools to be safe learning spaces.



Education staff should be recognised and rewarded for the important work they do. They should have career opportunities. They should have professional learning to support high standards.



There should be a regular review of school courses to make sure they meet changing learner needs. They must be taught in the same way so that learning experiences do not change from school to school.



A future education system should make best use of the abilities, skills, and talents of all children and young people in Scotland. It should break down inequalities. It should offer a wider set of testing and qualification options. It should reward the achievements of all learners.



Better digital skills and technology are needed in Scottish education. We need this to meet the needs of all learners in a future digital world.



We need to listen to children and young people's views and put their needs at the centre. This means involving parents and carers, families, and communities. Education staff can lead the way by using expertise and judgement to make the right decisions and actions.

## Next Steps



The people of Scotland have spoken, and we have listened. It is now time for ongoing discussion and real action to achieve the vision that **All Learners in Scotland Matter**.



We ask the Scottish Government and COSLA to think about this report. And the ways we will help take the Scottish education system forward.



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