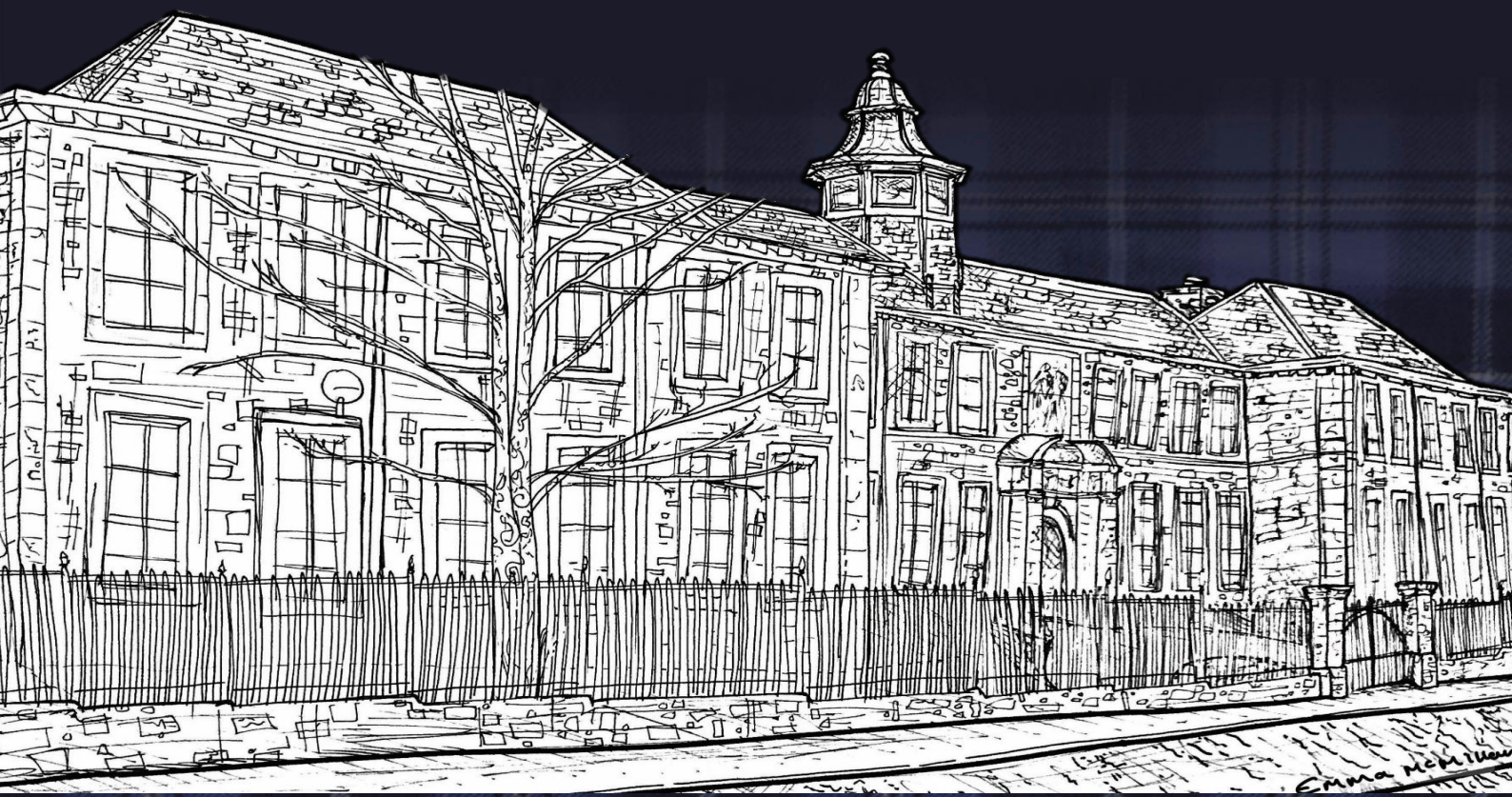




Dalziel High School

RESPECT, INCLUDE, ACHIEVE

Pupil Parliament 2025 - 2026



Introduction

We are proud to introduce this report celebrating our school's commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The UNCRC reminds us that every child has rights, including the right to be safe, respected, heard, and supported to achieve their full potential.

Throughout this year, our school community has worked hard to ensure that these rights are at the heart of everything we do and our school ethos. We have increased awareness of children's rights through lessons, assemblies, displays, and pupil-led activities including development days.

Many of our initiatives reflect key UNCRC articles. This session we chose 5 articles to discuss which were:

1. Article 28 - Access to education
2. Article 13 – Sharing thoughts freely
3. Article 23 – Children with disabilities
4. Article 29 – Aims of Education
5. Article 12 – Respect for Children's views

Through our pupil leadership groups, we have promoted **Article 12 and 13**, which gives children the right to express their views and have them taken seriously. Our commitment to inclusion and equality reflects **Article 23**, ensuring that every young person is treated fairly and with respect. We have supported wellbeing and learning through activities that uphold **Articles 28 and 29**, focusing on every child's right to an education that helps them develop their talents, skills, and confidence.

We are proud of the work completed by pupils and staff to create a positive and welcoming school community. Whether through leadership opportunities, charitable events, mentoring programmes, wellbeing initiatives, or community projects, we have worked together to demonstrate children's rights in action.

I hope the Pupil Parliament can continue to grow. By understanding and respecting rights, we are looking to build opportunities for our school values to be demonstrated and experienced.

Nero Rutherford & Alex Smith

School captain and vice-captain

Pupil Parliament

Our Pupil Parliament has been built upon last year's parliament and what used to be the Pupil Council. This year this was made up of the following: School Captain, School Vice-Captain, House Captains, Class Captains, and a representative from different pupil groups across the school.

This session, the Pupil Parliament chose one article to focus on every meeting. We asked ourselves three questions:

- What does this mean?
- What does this look like in our school?
- What could we do to make positive change?

As a group, we would discuss our school and community when considering each article. We would then ask Mrs Frew to attend at the end of our meeting or as captain and vice-captain, we met with Mrs Frew who then spoke with Mrs Martin and the rest of the senior leadership team. We also had regular meetings with Mrs Martin as part of our pupil leadership roles.

We have included information on our discussions as a group and our ideas in this booklet.

Article 28 - Access to Education

What does this mean?

Free education for everyone, should not need to pay. Education should be equal for everyone (no one should be advantaged or disadvantaged). Everyone should have access to learn and further their knowledge.

What does this look like in our school?

We are all timetabled to be in classes – in S3 – S6 this is subjects of our choice. There is extra support for people who need additional help. SFL – for those who require extra support, so they can access lessons just as other pupils do. Deaf Ed – for those who are hearing impaired, pupils are linked to a tutor within that department and receive timetable classes to support them.

What could we do to make positive change?

Printed copies of timetable, homework and resources should be available to those who don't have access to internet. More interactive lessons. More practical classes. Everyone learns differently – there should be planning on how to make lessons accommodating for everyone. J Frew to share this with SLT to suggest this was a focus of learning walks.

What change happened as a result?

Differentiation and the Dalziel Lesson Plan was focus of learning walks. This makes sure pupils can access their learning.

Article 23 – Supporting Children with Disabilities

What does this mean?

Means to include and respect people who have additional support needs and don't think anything differently of them. Different people have different needs so each child's additional needs should be catered specifically for them, offering support when needed.

What does this look like in our school?

Pupils with ADHD and autism have GIRFMe plans which means getting it right for me and teachers know about these when pupils are in classes. Deaf Ed base and mics for deaf pupils. Dyslexic pupils get overlays for reading and get support from Support for learning. We have lifts for pupils with mobility issues. Pupils with social anxiety get to leave 5mins early from classes to avoid overcrowding in corridors.

What could we do to make positive change?

Educate people more on different disabilities. Regular reviews to see if their support plan is working. Improve already established plans for pupils.

What change happened as a result?

Deaf awareness training is given to all staff at an inset day rather than just opting into the training. This will also be shared at assemblies next year for S1-S3 pupils.

Article 12 – Respect for Children’s Views

What does this mean?

It means that we can share what we think in class or outside of it. We can have adults listen to us about things that impact our own life. It means that we can have our views taken and adults genuinely listen to them.

What does this look like in our school?

In our school we have our Pupil Parliament which gets to contribute to change and having a say in our school. Mrs Frew takes what we say back to Mrs Martin and other deposes. We do pupil surveys in some subjects, and the point is to make courses better and share what we think. Science and Computing do this a lot. Some pupils also mentioned learner groups, this is when the deposes speak to a group of pupils in their year group and ask them questions about what is going on in class.

What could we do to make positive change?

We could have a suggestion box to let people share topics they would like to bring up. In the learner groups by deposes, it could be different pupils so more people are aware of it. Departments could share the results of pupil surveys.

What change happened as a result?

In the learner groups, different pupils will be chosen each time to get more and different views of pupils. Some departments have started to share pupil feedback.

Article 29 – Aims of Education

What does this mean?

This means the purpose of our learning. To learn in different subject areas and gain qualifications. Not just about our results but also achieving in class, this is why it is one of our school values. To have the chance to attend clubs that develop what we are interested in. So, we are ready for when we leave school.

What does this look like in our school?

We have the choice of which subjects to take and to gain qualifications in. We can take these at different levels. In S1 and S2 you get the chance to do all subjects, so it is easier to decide. We have lots of clubs across different subject areas like sports clubs, choir, coding and much more. We are given opportunities to do these in house competitions and when the school has an event. For example, the choir sing at prizegiving.

What could we do to make positive change?

We get lots of opportunities and it is on social media but could be done more consistently. If someone does something well, could we use the screen at the front of the school to celebrate people's success or more publicly.

What change has happened as a result?

Staff have been asked to share pupil success with SLT. This is then celebrated and shared on the TV screen at the front of the school. We also celebrate the opportunities given to us in school for example the work completed on development days for each year group. Next year we have asked if there could be more public praise.

Article 13 – Sharing Thoughts Freely

What does this mean?

It means we can share our thoughts with others without thinking you are going to get into trouble. Discussion took place about making sure you are respectful of other people even if you disagree with them. It means we can speak to someone and tell them if we are worried about something.

What does this look like in our school?

We can do this in here at pupil parliament meetings. We can also do this at the learner group meetings with the deutes. When we are discussing topics in class, we can share what we think. For example, in Politics or in SE, a lot of discussions happen.

What could we do to make positive change?

Check that everyone has someone to speak to. Promote our school values. Share how pupil voice has changed things across the school.

What change happened as a result?

Pupils were asked their thoughts on our school values which will be shared with staff. S1 – S3 pupil parliament members completed a task on “what makes a good lesson?”. This was then used by a staff group to improve the learning and teaching policy. We also asked for an increased number of bins to help with the litter problem, there are more bins in the local community too. We were also asked what money should be spent on for pupils and after a vote, we asked for more benches outside to allow pupils to sit on at lunch.



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