## Children's Parliament

# **Imagining Aberdeen**









**Children's Parliament** has been working with 300 children from Bramble Brae, Manor Park, Riverbank and Tullos primary schools; as they imagine Aberdeen as a place where every child is healthy, happy, safe and doing their best.

Twenty of the 300 children have become Imagineers. They have worked to represent all the imaginings on a multi-panelled mural.

This mural is their vision for Aberdeen. On the flip side of this leaflet you can read what each part of the mural means to the Imagineers.

Our blog has been used by children throughout the project:

https://bit.ly/ImaginingAberdeen
The Imagining Aberdeen film is also available on the blog.



Reports on phase 1 of the work with the children are published on the **Imagining Aberdeen** blog; they report on children's insight about what human dignity means to children, and describe what children, families and communities need to flourish.

**Imagining Aberdeen Reports:** bit.ly/aberdeenprojectreports





# Are you sitting comfortably? This is our story.

#### Panel 1

Twenty Imagineers from 4 schools have imagined Aberdeen as a safe, healthy, happy place for children. Each child is represented as an Imagineer – located in a place or doing something which represents them at their most creative. They find themselves in places as diverse as a jungle of instruments, riding a stripey tiger, being catapulted high, performing a song or rap...

In this panel the community is a place where children can be outside, playing and picnicking. They can climb trees and pick apples. The boy is saying "I like spending time with my Mum, we are going to the shows". The bus makes it easy to get around the city.

#### Panel 2

Children imagine the happy home. The family sit together and eat together. The Dad is reading to his children. In the sitting room the Granny is looking after the toddler and everyone is watching a movie together eating popcorn. In the bathroom Mum is having a bit of peace and quiet in the bubble bath. In the hallway the writing says: "This is a kind family and they all respect each other. They are not afraid to show that they love each other".

#### Panel 3

Aberdeen is the silver city by the sea. Along the top of the Mural we see the city skyline, shimmering in the sun.

The bus continues its journey through brightly lit safe streets. No-one is smoking. The lollipop person helps children cross safely. The local shops mean you can buy everything you need. The shopkeeper is happy and sings to the children. People are playing on the beach, enjoying watching the dolphins and fish. One person says; "Can I get a hug". The other replies: "Of course you don't have to ask".

#### Lighthouse Panel

The lighthouse keeper says:

# "Adults come see what we think is important for all children"

- Tell children you love them
- Be kind to us
- Give us support when we need it
- All children need enough to eat
- School should be a joyful place
- Families should spend time together
- There should be enough trees and flowers everywhere
  Everyone needs to be
- respected
- Remember we love to playWe all need to have our say
- at home and at schoolNo-one should feel left out or unwanted
- All playgrounds and parks should be dog-poo free
- All families need to live in a lovely street with nice neighbours

#### Panel 4

The bus continues its journey through the community. The bus advert says: "Respect people for who they are".

The Fun Club is a place for all children and young people to go throughout the day to dance, play sports and do art. The art shop means children can get everything they need to do art at home and school.

The dog owner picks up the dog poo.

There are trees and flowers everywhere. There is a safe place for wee ones to play. A girl says: "Thanks for listening and taking care of me". Her Mum says: "If you don't feel well I'll take you home".

### Panel 5

This is the joyful school. In the school there are lots of opportunities to do art, yoga and music. The children are reading books. There are tablets to help do work. Children are good at maths and the teacher says "well done!" and rewards them with trips.

Children and adults speak many different languages and everyone gets along. The boy says to the girl: "I will always look out for you".

In the school things get fixed when they are broken.

Near the school there are things to do. Children go swimming, there are places to feel free and relax. A man hands out fruit for all the children.



#### <u>Panel</u>

More of our Imaginers are around the mural – happy and creative.

In the community girls and boys play together. There are pitches and places to go to take part in different activities and sports. Children are encouraged to do their best. The coach says: "Nice work, keep going!"

One of the Imagineers raps: Aberdeen should be a great place to be/Needles flying about the city/This aint for me/Fighting on the streets/ Clubs open way to late/The Mums need a break/To hang out with their mates/Money is short, you need to save/For everyday things, other people throw away.