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IMAGINING ABERDEEN...

Aberdeen City Council has asked Children's Parliament to work with children to imagine Aberdeen as a city where all children are healthy, happy, safe and doing their best. This is a report on phase one of the project with children from Tulloch Primary School.

Visit the project blog at:
<https://bit.ly/ImaginingAberdeen>

Imagining Aberdeen...

Children have been learning about their **HUMAN RIGHTS**. All children should be:

**HEALTHY
HAPPY
SAFE
DOING THEIR BEST**

Children's **HUMAN RIGHTS** are important across children's lives:

**HOME
SCHOOL
COMMUNITY**

Children have been learning about the idea of **HUMAN DIGNITY**. This means:

- **EVERY HUMAN BEING IS IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL**
- **WE SHOULD BE FRIENDLY AND KIND TO OTHERS**
- **IT IS WRONG TO HURT OTHER PEOPLE OR MAKE THEM FEEL BAD ABOUT THEMSELVES**
- **NO-ONE SHOULD EVER TAKE AWAY YOUR HUMAN DIGNITY**
- **IF WE ALL LEARN WHAT HUMAN DIGNITY MEANS, WE ARE LESS LIKELY TO ACCEPT WHEN OTHER PEOPLE HURT, DISCRIMINATE OR PUT SOMEONE DOWN.**

Throughout this project we have been asking:

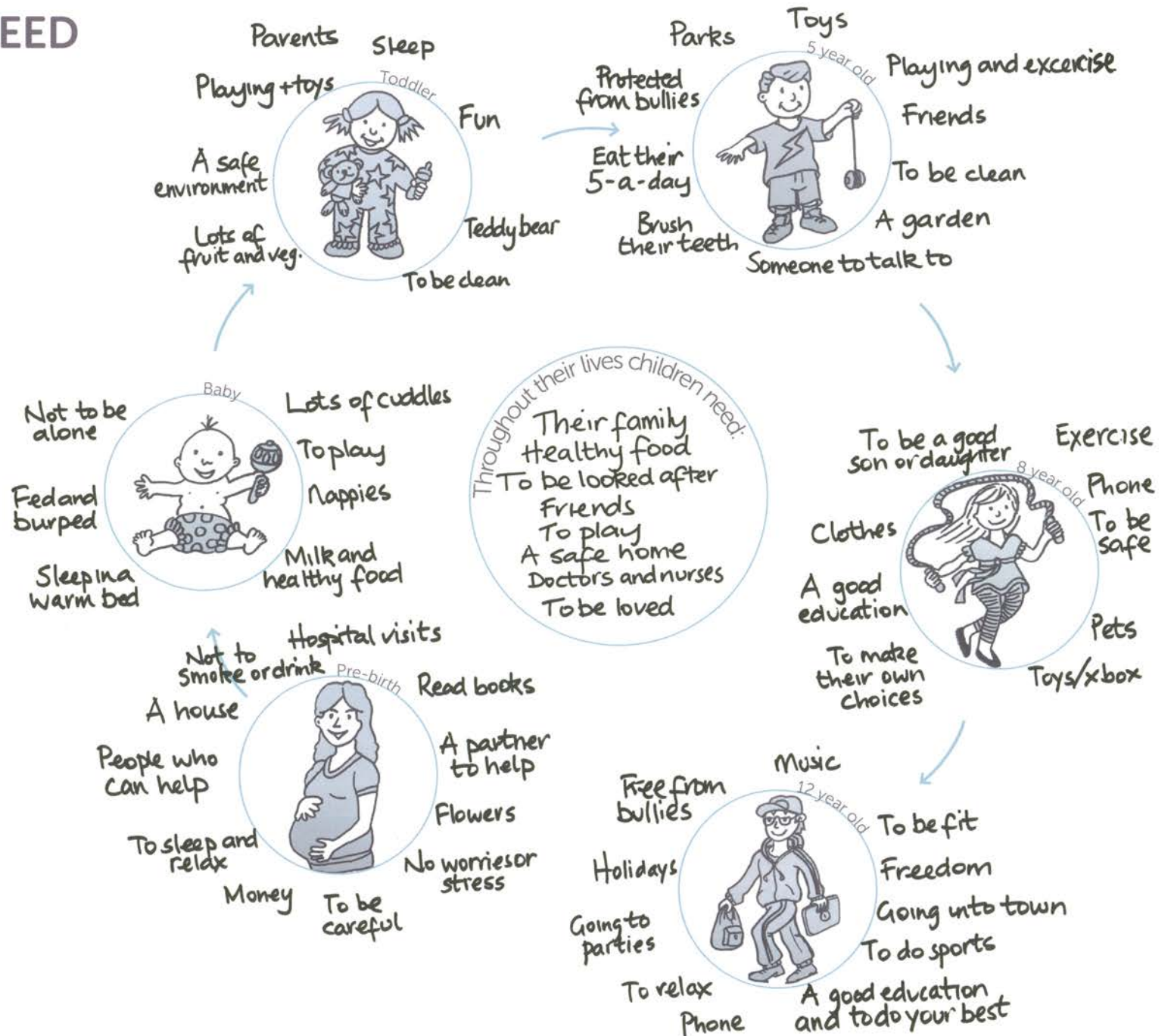
WHAT DOES A LIFE LIVED WITH DIGNITY MEAN TO YOU?

WHAT CHILDREN NEED



Working together children have explored what children need - from before birth, through the early years and as they grow up. The final image is of a 12 year old. This poster represents all the ideas of the children.

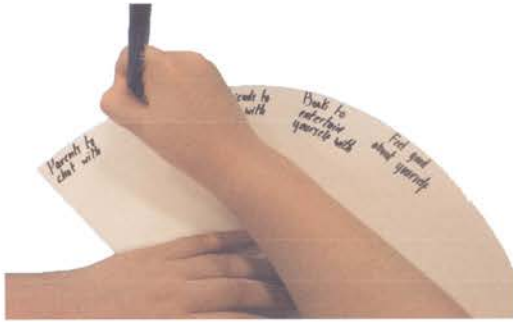
As you read this poster ask yourself: What can I do to help make sure children are healthy, happy, safe and doing their best?



Imagining
Aberdeen...

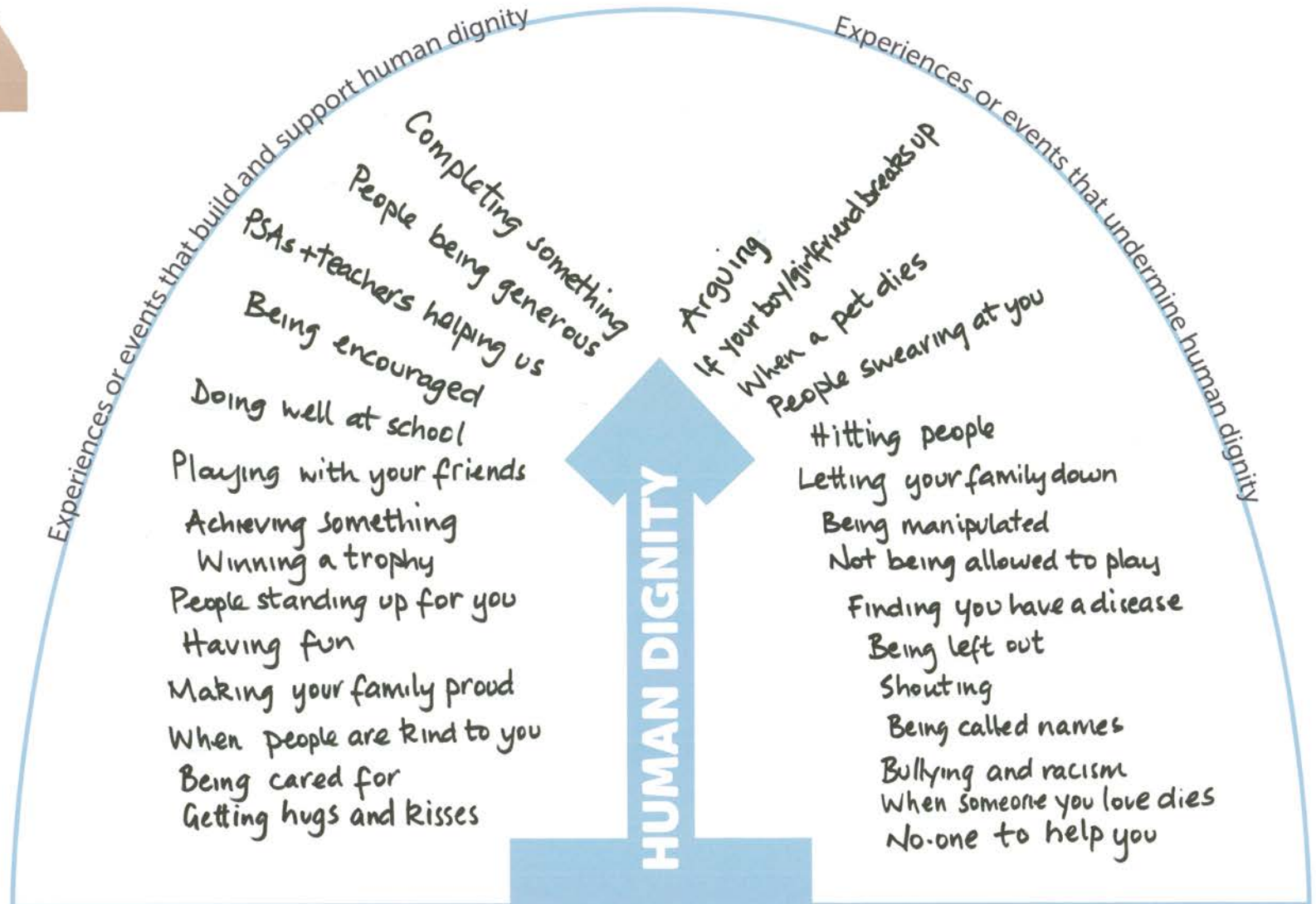
THE IDEA OF HUMAN DIGNITY

Imagining
Aberdeen...



Children have been considering what HUMAN DIGNITY means to them. Working together they have created 'dignometers' that represent the things that can happen in a child's life that build the child's sense of human dignity - and those experiences or events that can have a negative impact on a child's human dignity. The image on this poster represents all the ideas of the children.

As you read this poster ask yourself: What can I do to build each child's sense of human dignity? How can I support them when they need it?



LIFE AT SCHOOL (PART 1)



Children have been reflecting on life at school. Working together they have identified what a school should be like if it is a place where every child is healthy, happy, safe and doing their best. The images on this poster represent all the ideas of the children.

As you read this poster ask yourself: What can I do to make school a place and an experience in which every child is able to do their best?



Imagining Aberdeen...

LIFE AT SCHOOL (PART 2)

Imagining
Aberdeen...



Children have considered what can get in the way of being healthy, happy, safe and doing their best at school. This poster represents what children identified and also some of the actions that would help when it comes to those issues they saw as priorities.

As you read this poster ask yourself:
What can I do to positively tackle what gets in the way of children having the best experience of school?

Feeling lonely
Bullying
When learning is difficult, like with dyslexia
When someone you love dies
If you think school isn't important
If your family doesn't support you
If the teacher doesn't care
Being upset
When someone is mean to you
Not enough adults to help
Feeling nervous
Being ill

What gets in the way of children being healthy, happy, safe and doing their best at school?

People disturbing you
Giving up - feeling like you can't do it
Feeling sad or down
Not understanding
Worrying about someone at home
People not listening
Falling out and being left out
Racism
Arguments at home
If someone tells you 'you can't do it'
Being tired
When the teacher isn't impressed with your work

Challenge 1: Distractions in the classroom

How to tackle the problem:

- Check everything is OK.
- Help people. Tell them you care.
- Ask them: 'What's wrong?'
- Take a deep breath.
- Don't make people lose Golden Time.
- Get help from a teacher that is kind and helpful.
- Tell people they can play after finishing their work.

Challenge 2: Bullying

How to tackle the problem:

- Tell someone if you are bullied.
- Adults need to stop the bullying.
- Stand up for your friends or others.
- Be honest.
- Understand the bully has problems.
- Don't speak badly about people.
- Tell children about their rights.
- Be a good role model.

Challenge 3: When you feel sad or down

How to tackle the problem:

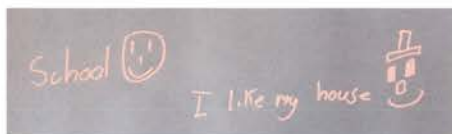
- Talk to a teacher or a PSA.
- Never leave people out - make a New Year's resolution.
- Help children feel safe.
- Treat people the way you want to be treated.
- Counsellors should help children share their feelings.
- Support for families too.
- Look out for each other.
- Tell families how to help their children.

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY



Children have worked together to think about life in their community. They have identified what they like and what they would change. This poster shows images from our community building workshop and identifies the aspects of community life children value most and those they think need changed.

As you read this poster ask yourself: What can I do to create the community children aspire to, where every child is healthy, happy, safe and doing their best?



Imagining
Aberdeen...

In our community, we like:

😊 Our houses and the views

😊 Parks and the beach

😊 Fresh air

😊 Polite people

😊 Clubs and activities

In our community, we don't like:

😞 Dog poo everywhere

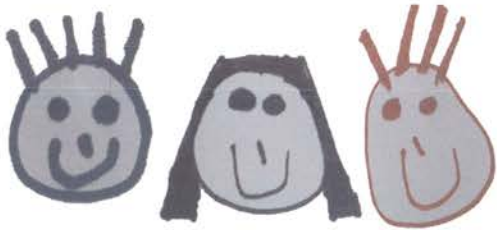
😞 Litter, rubbish and vandalism

😞 Adults smoking around us

😞 Arguing and fighting and being noisy at night

😞 Bad weather

LIFE AT HOME



Children have been talking about the importance of family. They have considered what help families might need and how to make Aberdeen a good place for families.

As you read this poster ask yourself: What can I do to support families in communities across the city?

Families are important because...

they are always there for you they always listen to you.

they keep you entertained.

You get to annoy your brother.

they keep you safe they encourage you they look after you when times are difficult.

Imagining Aberdeen...

They love me!
 They love you no matter what.
 They help you do stuff and encourage you.
 They feed you and care for you.
 They hug you and tell you bedtime stories.
 They take you places.
 They listen to you.
 They keep you safe and stop you doing anything dangerous.

Families are important because:

A family needs help in hard and sad times.
 Some families need more money.
 Some families need more food.

FAMILIES

Every family should have a home and garden.
 Pick up dog poo.
 More parks and play parks.

What help or support do families need?

A befriender can help a family.
 Adults need a job.
 All families need good nurses + doctors.
 All families need good schools for their children.

How can we make Aberdeen a good place for families?

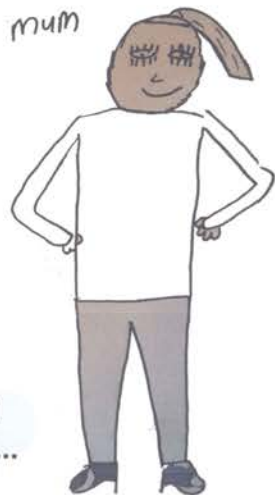
Our community should be safer.
 More Police.
 More fun for families.
 No more drugs and alcohol.
 No more racism.
 No more setting fires.
 Build more houses not offices.
 Stop bullying.

ADULTS



Across life at home, at school and in the community, children have recognised the important role that adults play in their lives. This poster represents the characteristics, skills and values they hope adults will have.

As you read this poster ask yourself:
How can I be the adult children need?



Imagining
Aberdeen...

How to be respectful.
How to look after a baby.
How to take care of serious situations.
How to cook.
How to have fun.
How to make and keep the rules.
They should know all children are individuals.

What things should adults know?

With respect.
With honesty.
They are good to children.
Like royalty.
Kindly
Strict but fair.
Take you to school.

How should adults treat children?

Loved.
Happy.
Safe.
Cheered up.
Satisfied.

How should adults make children feel?



"Stay positive."
"I love you."
"Go get your pyjamas on!"
"Here's your pocket money."
"Why so glum?"
"It's ok. I love you. I'll try to fix it."
"Time for supper."
"Talk to me."
"Be careful."
"Night night x"

What should adults say to children?

Paying attention.
Playing.
Keeping children safe.
Being nice.
Maths and spelling.
Cooking and tidying up.
Giving hugs (if we want one).
Working less - spending time with us.

What should adults be good at?

Which adults can help or support children?

Mum.
Our friends Mum or Dad.
Aunties + Uncles
Policeman + Policewoman.
Teachers and PSAs.
Head Teacher.
Dad.
Gran + Grandpa.
Brothers + Sisters.

ABERDEEN

Imagining Aberdeen...

To complete this phase of the project children have considered what's best and what's not about their city. All of the children's ideas and opinions will be taken to phase 2 of the project where 20 children from the 4 participating schools will continue to imagine Aberdeen.

