



The Scottish Youth Parliament
Gordon Lamb House
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26th March 2020

Dear Mr. Middleton,

YOUNG PEOPLE AND EXAM RESULTS IN THE WAKE OF COVID-19

We are writing to you today on behalf of the Scottish Youth Parliament, the democratically-elected voice of Scotland's young people, to offer to work with you to ensure young people's voices are at the heart of the critical decisions on exams and assessments that are to follow.

First and foremost, we would like to acknowledge your efforts to ensure that exam results are allocated fairly to the young people whose education has been disrupted by COVID-19.

This is an incredibly difficult time for all of us, with unprecedented decisions having to be made and life as we know it changing, so we are writing to offer you our support in the challenges that lie ahead.

Our organisation is founded on Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: that all children and young people have the right to be consulted in all matters affecting them.

As we're sure you'll be aware, there is, understandably and as a natural consequence of this unavoidable disruption, a great deal of uncertainty amongst the young people we represent who are unsure how their final grades will be distributed, and how this may affect their future in terms of education and employment. Some are worried that their performance in exams may have ameliorated their predicted grades, but that this will no longer be possible.

Having worked with you before, we know you will be keen to ensure that young people are involved in the plans that are now being made. We want to offer to work with you, to support you and help you ensure that young people are at the heart of these decisions. We believe that this will make the process more reflective of what young people want to see, and would be delighted to offer young people's perspectives during this process if that would be of use.

We understand how difficult a time this is, and again want to thank you for your efforts in ensuring that exam grades are allocated fairly.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Jack Dudgeon MSYP, Chair of the Scottish Youth Parliament

Bailey-Lee Robb MSYP, Trustee of the Scottish Youth Parliament for Policy and Advocacy

Liam Fowley MSYP, Trustee of the Scottish Youth Parliament and Convener of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee

Donald Maclean MSYP for Eastwood