

Education and Skills Committee

Personal and Social Education

Scottish Youth Parliament 18 April 2017

At its March 2017 sitting, the Scottish Youth Parliament undertook a workshop on Personal and Social Education and how young people could be involved in its co-production.

The Committee might find the following particularly interesting in terms of suggestions for how to ensure schools involve young people in the development of course content (note the following is in YP's own words):

How would you like your school to involve you (or how would you like to have been involved) in developing PSE lessons?

- Pupils can rank topics according to preference on what they want to learn about.
- Consulting with pupils (Simply asking for our opinions would be enough.) ie; through survey, group discussions, etc.
- Have working group/panels of young people to update curriculum.
- Peer education.
- Make groups and give each one a topic and ask them to create a lesson on that topic.
- Involve pupil council.
- There should be a national curriculum, built in consultation with lead youth representatives, that should be rolled out to all schools. This would prevent a patchwork approach to PSE provision, or a post code lottery where certain young people get the skills they need to thrive, and some have an incomplete experience. Then Scottish Government/Education Scotland should set up a challenge panel every year, with 50% of members being young people, to assess how well it's being implemented in each region.
- Involving older pupils in redesigning lessons.