



SJHS Senedd

Serving God through learning together



Think–Pair–Share

When was the last time a young person's opinion was ignored?



Today we're looking at a right that says young people's views must be listened to — not ignored.



Article 12

1. States Parties shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.



2. For this purpose, the child shall in particular be provided the opportunity to be heard in any judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child, either directly, or through a representative or an appropriate body, in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of national law.



UNCRC Article 12 (Summary):

Children and young people have the right to express their views about matters that affect them, and adults must listen to those views and take them seriously, in a way that matches the child's age and understanding.



“Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.” (1 Samuel 3:10)

Key points:

- It's about **having a voice**, not always getting your own way
- Adults must **listen and consider**, not dismiss
- Applies to **school, family, community, and government**

Catholic:

- *Human dignity*: Every person is created in God's image
- *Common good*: Listening helps us make fairer decisions



Read one or two scenarios aloud. Students show **Thumbs Up / Side / Down**.

Scenarios:

1. Students are asked for feedback on school uniform changes, but no one reads it.
2. A teacher listens to a pupil's concerns but explains why a different decision is made.
3. School rules are changed without asking students at all.

Discuss briefly after each:

- Was the right respected?
- Why / why not?

Being heard doesn't always mean getting your way



“One way I could use my voice respectfully in school is...”



In one sentence:

Why does Article 12 matter?



Loving God,

You created each of us with a voice and a purpose.

Help us to speak honestly and respectfully

when things affect our lives.

Give us the courage to share our thoughts

and the wisdom to listen to others with open hearts.

May our school be a place where every voice is valued,

and where we work together for the good of all.

Amen.

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