



Welcome to the Summer KSS Global Citizenship Newsletter!

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GLOBAL GOALS



By: R. Allan

HOW WE CAN HELP (MOSTLY UK-FOCUSED)

As an individual, it would be very difficult to have any effect on the job market or economic growth- but we can try.

One thing that an individual could attempt is buying from or supporting smaller local businesses- it won't have a direct effect on the global economy, but it will help other individuals create a living during this pandemic.

Another thing an individual could try is donating to local homeless shelters: this helps with a lot of things, but it will have a sort-of domino effect.

- People live in poverty as they cannot get hired
- People cannot get hired if they do not have the education
- People cannot get the education unless they have the money for it
- Full circle

As a school, the most important thing to do would be to teach children finance. It will be incredibly useful to them in the future as the world of finance and market and economy is extraordinarily and needlessly confusing. If we educate children on important skills they will need for job-searching in the future, there will hopefully be less people left jobless and struggling.

As a community, employers should put special focus on equal pay and equal opportunity for every employee, no matter the sex, race, age, orientation or if they have a disability. We should also continue supporting smaller local businesses.

The government can help in more ways than one. They can discuss raising the minimum wage in the UK, they can discuss raising furlough payments- although it is

not easy to pass these sorts of things in parliament, they should at least try. They should fund homeless shelters, education, make sure businesses stay open during the pandemic, the whole lot.

GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the worldwide job market and economic growth as a whole. Many businesses have been permanently shut down as they could not open throughout the pandemic, this includes major businesses and small businesses, both equally devastating when shut down. People have struggled to sustain themselves throughout the pandemic as they have been let go or made redundant due to budget cuts in their work. COVID has been an incredibly difficult time for people job-searching, as help centres are shut down and many are not hiring.

The pandemic has caused big changes in the stock market too. It is stated that the "major Asian and US stock markets have recovered following the announcement of the first vaccine" (Statement from the BBC).

The unemployment rate in almost every country has skyrocketed since the beginning of the pandemic, hitting the United States the hardest: a 3.7% unemployment rate to 8.9%. This is severely high unemployment rate for a country with such a high population.

FURLOUGH SCHEMES (IN THE PANDEMIC)

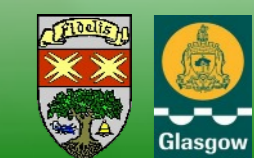
A furlough scheme, to put it simply, is when employees are allowed a temporary leave due to request of employer/company often due to economic conditions. They still have their job, they are still employed, and still receive pay in this time, but less than usual.

During the pandemic, many have been furloughed. They cannot come *into* work and if they cannot work from home, they are classified as furloughed. The pay during this time will usually be less than full usual wage- prior to August 2020, furlough pay was 80% of normal wages. It dropped to 60% in October.

MINIMUM WAGE (AS OF 2020)

The minimum wage, although different in every country, has always been a divisive topic. Many countries have a minimum wage that isn't even enough to sustain a living, such as Sierra Leone- their minimum wage is 0.03\$. Now, even compared to the economy of the country, 0.03\$ is still a minuscule amount. 1L of milk costs the equivalent of 2.16\$. Many live on less than 1.23\$ a day. Sierra Leone has the lowest minimum wage in the world and over 60% of its population are in poverty. (All statistics shown here are from an article written 2013, things are subject to change)

The United Kingdom's minimum wage is £8.72 per hour as of 2020 (for adults over the age of 25). This equates to approx. £1445.7, which is a 6.21% increase from prior years. It is a larger sum of money than many countries get, but it is still difficult to live on.





THE NO QUESTIONS ASKED STALL

By: Abigail Reilly

I asked Weronika (F.A.R.E.) a few questions about the no questions asked stall and what it is about. Here are the answers she gave me about it.

Q: What is the 'No Questions Asked' stall?

A: The 'No Questions Asked' stall is a free stall that allows families to come in and pack a bag with food/sanitary products/toiletries/stationary without being asked any questions.

Q: When did you set it up?

A: We set up the stall at the end of January.

Q: Why is it important?

A: I think it is important as it provides essential support to families that are being affected by the current pandemic.

Q: Why did you set it up?

A: We set up the stall as we didn't want any families to struggle during these difficult times. We wanted to make sure that families were receiving support from the school.

Q: What does it do?

A: The stall allows families to come in and pack a bag with essential items without having to sign up.

Weronika told me that the 'No Questions Asked' stall is a stall to help families that are struggling during these tough times to get the essentials that you need and you won't get questioned about the essentials you buy, which is really helpful to a lot of families. Thank you for reading this short interview about the 'No Questions Asked' stall.

RRS - PUPIL

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

We had the opportunity to catch up with some of the RRS Pupil Leaders who were involved in delivering RRS sessions to P7's on the transition days at KSS. Here are some thoughts and opinions from Erin, Lucy and Eilidh on their experiences and why Article 28 is so important:

Question: What was your favourite part of the RRS training day with Sean from F.A.R.E?

Erin: My favourite part was creating the posters on article 28.

Lucy: I like how we could all speak together to get a better understanding of what we have to do.

Eilidh: I liked being able to have mature conversations with everyone.

Question: Why is Article 28 - The Right to Education important?

Erin: Because it gives all young people an equal chance at life and education.

Lucy: It is important because we all need education.

Eilidh: It is important because everyone deserves an education, and it is necessary to be able to have a fulfilling and successful life.

Question: What was 1x challenge you faced while running the P7 transition sessions?

Erin: Getting the p7's to communicate with us.

Lucy: Trying to motivate the p7's to join in and ask questions.

Eilidh: Getting the P7s to communicate with us and convey their thoughts.

Question: How did you overcome this?

Erin: Giving them opportunities to ask and answer questions.

Lucy: I just explained to them that we were all in the same boat at one time and we could help.

Eilidh: We asked them questions and reassured them that they were all in the same situation and that everyone was nervous.

Question: What was the impact of the RRS session on the P7 pupils?

Erin: Hopefully they are more aware of their right to an education and they are more confident joining us in august.

Lucy: Now they know a little bit of info on RRS and maybe they would like to help out.

Eilidh: I think it will remind them of how important their rights are, especially education. I think we might have made them feel better about starting high school, too.

POLITICAL LITERACY

Democracy Unit

