



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

Committee for Education

## Arts Project

Information  
Pack 

### ‘My Life and Learning in Lockdown’

#### About the project

The Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for Education is looking into how the COVID-19 lockdowns, school closures and restarts have impacted the lives of children and young people here. The Committee is inviting children and young people, through a number of activities, to share their views, opinions and personal reflections, so that the Committee can:

- **understand the impact** of lockdown, school closures and restarts **on the emotional wellbeing and mental health** of children and young people;
- **explore** with young people **how things could be improved, both in the immediate term and in a post-Covid-19 landscape**; and
- **recognise young people for the role they have played in keeping everyone safe.**

This activity offers children and young people a different, more creative way to share some personal reflections on their experience of the last year. The Committee will use the responses to produce a short report, which will be published online.

## What is the theme?

- The theme for the artwork, poem or story is **'My Life and Learning in Lockdown'**.
- Some stimulus questions which may be helpful are included on page 4 of this document. They are for guidance only and children and young people are encouraged to use their creativity to tell their own personal story.

## Who can submit?

- The Committee is keen to hear the views of young people of all ages who were in full or part-time education during lockdown.

## What mediums can be use?

- Young people can give their views to the Committee through a piece of artwork, photograph, poem or short story.
- All work should be presented on **A4 size paper**.
- The artwork must be 2 dimensional - don't stick objects to the paper!
- Stories should be no longer than 500 words.

## How to submit

- Children and young people may send in their work as individuals or a teacher/youth worker may send in submissions on behalf of a class/organisation.
- The **name and age** of the young person should be written on the **back of the submission**. Their first name and age may be used in the Committee Report or as part of a virtual exhibition. If they do not wish to have their name published, please indicate this on the back of their submission. [Please read the Northern Ireland Assembly Privacy Policy for more information.](#)
- If you wish the artwork, photograph or a handwritten story or poem to be returned, please include a return address on the back of the submission.
- Certificates of participation will be issued to all those who send in a submission. To facilitate this, please include a contact email address on the back of the submission.



- Please send submissions by post to:

Kate McCullough

Parliament Buildings

Ballymiscaw

Belfast BT4 3XX

- Photograph/scan the submission and email to:

[engagement@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:engagement@niassembly.gov.uk)

(if photographing the submission, please ensure the artwork is captured in one image and is in focus.)

- Please ensure that submissions arrive no later than **5pm Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**

## Any Questions?

Please email us at [engagement@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:engagement@niassembly.gov.uk)



## Some questions which may be useful in thinking about the issues.

No	Question
1.	<p>How was lockdown for me?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What was the hardest thing about lockdown?</li><li>- What did you miss the most during lockdown?</li><li>- What were you grateful for during lockdown?</li><li>- How did you keep yourself and others safe during lockdown?</li><li>- How was home-schooling for you?</li></ul> <p><i>Post-primary</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What was the best coping or creative activity you found that helped you to look after your emotional wellbeing and mental health during lockdown?</li></ul>
2.	<p>How was school restart for me?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- What were you looking forward to most when lockdown ended?</li><li>- What was going back to school like for you?</li><li>- Do you worry about the future because of Covid-19?</li><li>- What, if anything, would help ease your worries about the future?</li><li>- What are your hopes for the future? What are you looking forward to in the future?</li></ul> <p><i>Post primary pupils:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Do you have the support you need to fulfil your potential?</li><li>- What would help you to fulfil your potential?</li><li>- What one change would you like to see happen to support the emotional well-being and mental health of young people in the future?</li></ul>