

## What our neighbours and friends can do and the people around us

- \* We need adults around us who are fun, caring, and who we can trust.
- \* We also need adults who are proud of who they are and what they do.
- \* Our friends and family are who we listen to.
- \* We need places of our own to hang out, where we feel safe and where we belong.
- \* We need adults to remember this is our town too and you need to give us a chance to see what we can do.
- \* Please talk to us and we'll try not to bite.
- \* We are all different and we share our town with lots of different young people and adults.
- \* Do not judge us because of where we live.



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Bushmills Residents &  
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Bushmills Education Project



## Bushmills Young People's Education Charter

We all need a chance to be who we are and  
who we could become.

### DECLARATION

*Every child and young person in the Bushmills area, whatever their background, achieving their full potential at each stage of their journey through education confident that they have real choices and equipped to realise their hopes and ambitions.*

## *What is the Bushmills Education Project About?*

- It's about understanding why some young people from Bushmills do well at school whilst others do not. The experiences of parents, young people, education providers, the local neighbourhood as well as the facts show that educational underachievement is an issue in the Bushmills area, that it's been going on a long time and that there are costs for young people, families and the wider community.

## *Why Bushmills needs a Young People's Education Charter*

- \* For young people to state what they need to do and what they need from their families, their schools and the wider neighbourhood to make sure they leave school with real choices.
- \* For Bushmills to declare its commitment to its young people and their education.

## *As young people, what we need & what we need to do*

- \* We need to try our best and never give up.
- \* We need to be able to show you who we are, express ourselves, our feelings and opinions.
- \* We have the right to be treated fairly.
- \* We need to believe in ourselves.
- \* We need to give each other a chance.
- \* We want all of us to leave school with a smile.



## *What our families can do*

- We need our families to love and believe in us.
- We need our families to take an interest in what we are doing at school.
- Our families are the **biggest** influence in our lives and how we think about ourselves.
- We need to feel safe, get enough sleep and eat well.
- We need to learn things at home that we don't learn in school.



## *What our schools can do*

- \* We need schools to stop and sort out all bullying.
- \* Our teachers need to be approachable and easy to talk to.
- \* Teachers need to be interested in the subjects they are teaching and encourage us.
- \* We learn in different ways and are good at different things. We need our schools to recognize this.
- \* Our memories of school will be with us forever so make sure they're good ones.
- \* We need our teachers to be fair; some of us find school an easy place to be and some of us find it hard. However, we all need our achievements recognized and celebrated.
- \* Schools need to be welcoming places for our families.

