PUBLIC PETITION NO.	PE01759

Name of petitioner

Susan Crookes

Petition title

Equal school hours for all children in Scotland

Petition summary

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to ensure that all children receive the same teaching hours across the whole of Scotland.

Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition

I have written to school, my local councillor and my MSP.

Petition background information

At present, Highland Council (there may be others) only provides 22.5 hours a week for all infant children (P1 to P3). If children live in a different authority area they get 25 hours teaching a week. Over a four-week period many Scottish children are missing out on 10 hours of teaching other authorities provide. We would like to see equal schooling hours for all children in Scotland, regardless of which Local Authority they live in.

When I raised this issue, I was informed that this is not possible in Highland as many children have to get the bus home. But at one school (maybe others), the children who get the bus home have to wait for half an hour (no teaching provided) until the P4 to P7 finish - so this is not actually a reasonable justification. I know this issue was debated in 2016, and it was suggested that this was going to happen. But 3 years on it has not happened.

It is unfair that many children receive more education than others. We believe that every child should be given the same opportunity and not denied based on where they live.

Unique web address

https://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/Equalschoolhoursforallchildren

Related information for petition

Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?

YES

How many signatures have you collected so far?

0

Closing date for collecting signatures online

23 / 10 / 2019

Comments to stimulate online discussion

What sort of potential impact do you think these fewer hours schooling might have? And how would you like to see them resolved?