

# Success Looks Different Awards 2024/25



## Engagement pack & application guide



**Inclusion  
Ambassadors**



**Children  
in Scotland**



# Introduction



## Welcome to the Success Looks Different Awards 2024/25!

The Success Looks Different Awards are a chance for schools and early learning settings to reflect on how they are helping all pupils, and particularly their pupils with additional support needs, to feel included, celebrated, and supported.

First launched in 2022, the awards were created by the Inclusion Ambassadors, a group of secondary school aged pupils with a range of additional needs from across Scotland. Building on their Vision Statement, these awards highlight the importance of recognising that success should be measured in more than just exam results or attainment levels. They celebrate inclusion, recognising all pupils as important members of the school community.

- School should help me be the best I can be
- School is a place where children and young people learn, socialise and become prepared for life beyond school
- Success is different for everyone. But it is important that all the adults that children and young people come in to contact with in school get to know them as individuals. They should ask, listen and act on what the young people say about the support that works best for them.

Vision Statement from the

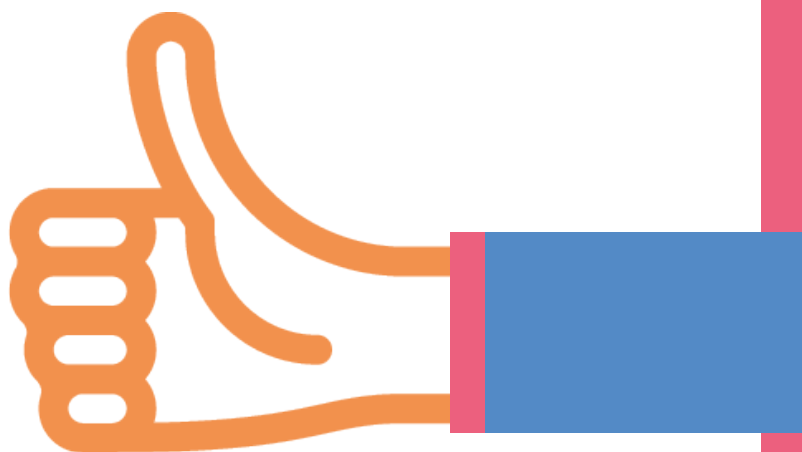


**Inclusion  
Ambassadors**

This year, the awards look a little different. The Inclusion Ambassadors reflected on previous years' awards and decided it was important to provide more opportunities to hear directly from children and young people. With this in mind, we have created this Engagement Pack so that children and young people can share their thoughts alongside the insights provided by the adults supporting their learning.

The awards are open to pupils of all ages, and awards will be presented in the following 4 categories:

- Early Years
- Primary School
- Secondary School
- Special School.



In this pack, you'll find:

- Our “Success at our school/early learning setting looks like...” activity (including ideas to get you started, prompt questions, and guidance notes for adults)
- Information on how to submit your application, including deadlines for submission and advice on how you can complete the accompanying application question.



# Taking part in Success Looks Different 2024/25



All schools and early learning settings are invited to take part in the awards, and to support their children and young people to engage in the application process.

This year, we invite you to explore our prompt: “Success at our school/early learning looks like...” with the children and young people in your establishment.

## Applications to the awards must include:

- A photograph or scanned image of your “Success at our school/early learning setting looks like...” piece(s), which should be completed with children and young people
- Your response to the application question, to be completed by a member of staff.



# How do we choose the winners?



The winners will be selected by the Inclusion Ambassadors. They created the success criteria which they will use to decide the winners.

## The success criteria:

1. Evidence of celebrating individual successes & positive relationships
2. Evidence of creativity & doing something different
3. Evidence of sharing success with the wider community
4. Evidence of respecting & promoting children's rights
5. Recognition through awards or certificates.

The Inclusion Ambassadors also wanted to share the following advice:

- Explain how you give everyone a chance to be celebrated, seen, and included
- We want to see how you 'walk the walk', and not just 'talk the talk'
- You should be specific about how you are enacting children's rights
- Show, don't just tell, how pupils have been involved in your application.

For more ideas and advice, have a look at the previous winners from [Year 1](#) and [Year 2](#).

Find out more about the Inclusion Ambassadors [here](#).

The children's part:



## “Success at our school / early learning setting looks like...”

Working together, create a piece, or pieces, that showcase the different ways your school or early learning setting celebrates and supports success for all pupils. We hope you'll make something that exemplifies your school, your pupils, and your successes.

It is up to you which children and young people you get involved in this opportunity, you might want to work with a specific class or group, but you also might want to involve specific pupils who you think would be interested in this topic.

It is also important to remember that we are particularly interested in hearing about different forms of success in school, with a particular focus on inclusion and additional support for learning.



## Aims:

- To create space for pupils to reflect on what success means to them, and to support pupils to acknowledge and celebrate their achievements
- To explore and reflect on what activities and opportunities your school creates to support the success of all its pupils
- To encourage pupils to work together towards a common goal.



## Time:

This activity should take at least 30 minutes but could be longer depending on the needs and interests of your pupils.



## Working together



**This is a group activity that encourages pupils to work together to create a collective piece of work.**

Pupils should be supported to engage with one another to decide on the final outcome, and all pupils involved should feel they were able to contribute to the final piece(s).

We trust that you will facilitate engagement with this activity in the most appropriate way for your setting. Please support your pupils to engage in the ways that work best for them. Think about what size of group, materials, or outcome(s) is most appropriate for your pupils.

It is up to you which children and young people you get involved in this opportunity, you might want to work with a specific class or group, but you also might want to involve specific pupils who you think would be interested in this topic. It is also important to remember that we are particularly interested in hearing about different forms of success in school, with a particular focus on inclusion and additional support for learning.

Along with your pupils you can choose what to create, but we can only accept up to 5 scans/photographs in your application. More details for how to submit your application are on page



## The Task

As a group, we want you create a piece, or pieces, that showcase what success means at your school or early learning setting. Your pupils could draw, write, collage or paint what they recognise as the ways their school or early learning setting supports their success.

You should support your pupils to consider all the different aspects of their school life. This might include their classroom environment, lunchtime clubs, support practices or programmes - whatever they understand to be beneficial to their success at school. Encourage your pupils to think about what success means to each of them as an individual.



## What should we make?

It's up to you and the children and young people to decide what you'd like to make. Ask your group about how they would like to share their ideas. You may wish to offer options based on the resources you have available - think about how you can best include the voices of all of your participating pupils.

If you're really stuck, here are some ideas.

You could make:

- A mind-map with descriptions of the different successes you support
- A story that sets out a 'typical day' at your school or early learning setting
- A map that shows the different things that happen around your school or early learning setting.



# Prompts to get you started

If you or your pupils aren't sure where to start, try answering these questions. Feel free to adapt them to suit your pupils. We have suggested some slightly different prompts for different award categories, this is based on what we felt would be most relevant for children at that age.

## Primary School

- What have you done at school that makes you feel proud?
- Who supports you at school, and how do they support you?
- What is your favourite thing about school?

## Secondary School

- What have you done at school that makes you feel proud?
- How does your school shout about and celebrate your achievements?
- How does your school make sure everyone feels included?

# Prompts to get you started

## Early Years

- What do you like to do when you're at nursery?
- What makes you feel proud at nursery?
- Who helps you at nursery?

We know that the children you work with in early years settings will be at different stages of their development, please think about the most meaningful ways for children to respond to these prompts. You may also have existing evidence (photos, drawings etc) which could be used to respond to these prompts.

## Special schools

We know that special schools work with a children and young people who have a broad range of needs, interests, and experiences. We trust that you will adapt our suggestions to the individual needs of your pupils and encourage you to explore all the prompts above to find the ones that suit your pupils best.



# Professional/Practitioner input: Application Question



The application question is to be completed by a teacher or supporting adult. Your response should be informed by the success criteria outlined on page 5 and the Inclusion Ambassadors' Vision Statement.

**Q. With reference to your submission piece(s), explain how your school celebrates the success of all pupils, and the impact this has on your pupils.  
(750 words)**

You may wish to include:

- Explanations of what your pupils created in response to our prompt, 'Success at our school/early learning setting looks like...'
- How you supported your pupils to engage with the activity
- Specific examples of ways that you celebrate success
- How you ensure that all pupils are involved in celebrating successes
- The impact that different activities or opportunities have on your pupils.

# How to submit your application



To apply to be considered for a Success Looks Different Award, you will need to submit a photograph or scan of your finished piece(s), based on the “Success at our school looks like...” activity and your answer to the application question.

**Submissions should be sent to:**

**[successlooksdifferent@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:successlooksdifferent@childreninscotland.org.uk)**

Please include the name of your school or early learning setting in the subject of your email. Please also confirm which award category you are entering.

Only one application per school or early learning setting will be accepted. While there is no maximum number of children or classes who may take part in the activity, we ask that each school and early learning setting send up to a maximum of 5 scans/photographs. Please include any that you mention directly in your application question, and those which best represent the range of ideas and views shared by your children and young people.

# Further information

Applications are open from Tuesday 24 September until 5pm on Friday 29 November 2024.

Winners will be announced in early 2025.

Learning from the awards will be shared in early 2025 through a publication.

All personal data included in your application will be stored securely in line with Children in Scotland's data privacy policy and will be deleted 6 months after the announcement of winning schools.

For more information, contact us at:

[successlooksdifferent@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:successlooksdifferent@childreninscotland.org.uk)

important LISTENING  
FUN get stuff done making change nice  
EPIC GIVES US A VOICE  
chance to talk SOCIABLE HELPFUL ENGAGING  
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