

Why do we
have a
monarchy?

Why do
some
people
object?





Yesterday, while the funeral cortege took the Queen from Holyrood House to St Giles Cathedral In Edinburgh, protestors in the crowd booed.

The crowd were upset with this.

Why do you think that was?



UN Rights of a Child



We have the right
to share what
we learn, think and
feel unless it harms
other people.



How did the protestors in Edinburgh harm other people when they expressed their opinions about the monarchy while Queen Elizabeth's coffin was being moved to St Giles Cathedral?

Protestors believe that we shouldn't have a monarchy because
We haven't elected them.

We also have a House of Lords, where all the people who have a
title,(either honorary or hereditary) like Lord... or Sir...
or Lady... or Dame... sit, deciding whether to pass laws decided by
our members of parliament.

We didn't vote for the House of Lords either.

What do you think about this?

What would be the impact if we had to vote
Before any decision was made?

Another way of protesting is to take strike action. Many people are struggling with price rises, and low wages, and there have been strikes across different trades and services.

This is an alternative way of protesting.



Look at the resource below, sharing examples of famous strikes of the past.

1926 – The General Strike

The aim of this strike was to force the government to act and prevent mine owners from reducing miners' wages whilst increasing their hours. The strike was called by TUC (Trade Union Congress) in May 1926. In support, huge numbers from other industries stayed off work, including bus, rail and dock workers and people with printing, gas, electricity, building, iron, steel and chemical jobs.

The strike lasted for nine days and the impact on the UK was huge. After nine days, the TUC called off the strike and people returned to work. The miners, though, continued to strike alone.

By the end of November, most were back down the mines, working for less pay and longer hours. Others remained unemployed for many years.



2002 – Firefighters' Strike

The Fire Brigades Union (FBU) voted for strike action to secure better pay for firefighters. They demanded a salary increase of 39%.

The first few weeks of planned action were postponed whilst salary was negotiated. No agreements were reached so on Wednesday 13th November 2002, a two-day strike began. The armed forces provided emergency cover during this period.

Following the strike, many discussions and negotiations between FBU and government officials continued. The dispute ended with the firefighters accepting a pay increase deal worth 16%.



1984 - 1985 – The Minors' Strike

The National Coal Board announced 20 pits in England would have to close with the loss of 20,000 jobs. A nationwide strike began in March 1984, with more than half of the country's miners leaving work.

For many towns and villages, the strike was divisive, with tensions growing between those who chose to strike and those who chose to continue working.

People who chose to strike earned no money and were not eligible for benefits as industrial action was seen to be illegal. They had to survive on savings and handouts.

During the strike, coal production dropped by more than half but the government had stockpiled.

In March 1985, the National Union for Mineworkers narrowly voted to end industrial action and the strike was over.

2019 – Global Climate Strikes

Millions of children from over 150 different countries took part aiming to put pressure on governments and decision-makers to do more about climate issues.

On Friday 20th September 2019, children took strike action and didn't attend school. Instead, many of the young people took part in protests, wanting their voices to be heard ahead of the United Nations' Climate Change Summit, which started three days later.



Have you ever taken strike action or know anyone who has?

There were strikes that were supposed to have happened, but
Then they were cancelled when people heard about the death
Of Queen Elizabeth II.

Why do you think people decided not to strike at this time?

What do you think of their decision?

Resource
one



Look at the resource below, where some children share some of the ways they have taken action.

"One day, at playtime, I noticed a boy in my class looking lonely and sad, with nobody to play with. The next day was the same and the next. Finally, I decided to ask him if he'd like to play. It was a little scary but I did it and we're now great friends!"

Santiago



"I wanted to learn to ride my bike. I kept telling my friends and family I was going to do it but I was always busy so didn't have much time to practise. One day, enough was enough. I went outside and practised and practised and practised. It took me most of the day but I did it!"

Ishaaq

"The litter in my local park was getting out of hand; it was everywhere. I decided to organise a litter pick. I then wrote to my local MP to explain the litter problem and ask if we could have some bins to solve it!"



Talia

"There were lots of things that were upsetting and worrying me. They kept swirling in my head and I couldn't stop feeling this way. I was very grumpy at school and at home. I finally decided to tell my mum what was bothering me. I immediately felt better. We talked through each of my worries and it really helped."

Zara



"I love wild animals. I know many species of animal are endangered but I don't think there is much I can do about it."

Teddy

For each child, can you explain what their action is?

Are there things that you do to 'protest' which we might think aren't the best way to make your views heard?

Share some examples of when you have 'protested' in a negative Way.

How could you have made your views heard in a better way?



Democracy

People who strike have decided to take action to help their voice be heard. We should listen to the voice of others and remember we also have a voice and have the right to use it.

