



PAIGE WILKES

AGE: 13 years old FROM: Wales

“I get frustrated at injustice and will always champion people who need support. I will always fight in their corner.”

I've helped raise funds for various causes since joining junior school, supporting charities including Christian Aid and Guide Dogs UK.

When I was eight, I became a member of my school council and Eco Committee. I got involved because I wanted to have a voice and play a part in shaping the school's procedures. I could see there were many others who wanted change to happen but didn't have the confidence to step up and get involved. I felt I could represent them.

I've been actively involved in promoting equality and campaigning for access to the same sports across all genders. A phrase which I hear all too often is: "You can't do that because you're a girl." It's ridiculous that people still say this in the 21st century. I'm working to give everyone the choice and freedom to participate.

Recently, I've been instrumental in establishing a girls' rugby team at school. Girls at my school have gained confidence from knowing that they can now take part, while boys now understand that sport is for everyone. There's no such thing as sport that's just for boys or just for girls.

I hope to improve the imbalance in dress throughout our school by campaigning for gender confident school uniform. I also want to get involved with mentoring younger children at my school who may need support with mental health issues. By helping prevent mental health problems when children are young, I hope to help set others up for success and give them the tools they need to excel.

Social action has made me much more confident. I've made new friends and have a greater sense of empathy with others. I've also learned the importance of clear communication and how to campaign effectively for change.



ORGANISATIONS I'VE WORKED WITH

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL LLANDAFF

CHARACTER STRENGTHS

CHARACTER STRENGTHS: LEADERSHIP, CONFIDENCE, EMPATHY, COURAGE, SOCIAL JUSTICE

