



The Scottish  
Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



Children and Young People's  
Centre for Justice

# THINKING ABOUT JUSTICE



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# THINKING ABOUT JUSTICE

The Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ) does research to improve how children and young people experience the youth justice system.

We asked 4 groups of children and young people across Scotland "What is justice?"

Within our groups we wanted to understand 3 things:

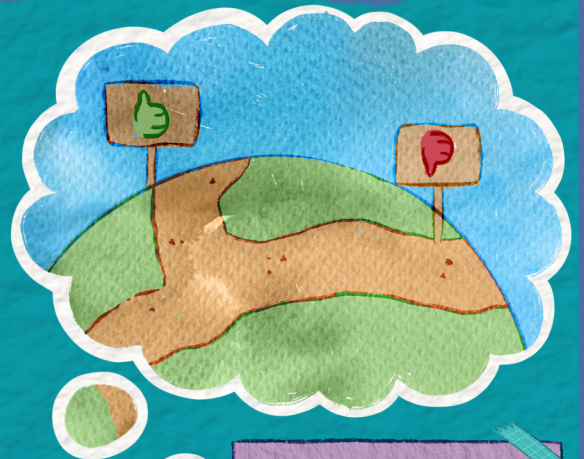
- ★ What does justice mean?
- ★ What does justice mean to you?
- ★ What could justice look like in the future?





# WHAT IS JUSTICE?

Children told us justice was about facing the consequences of your actions. Often this means being punished in some way.



Choosing the right path or the wrong path.

Children thought the most important thing was that justice helps people get support and that people should be given a second chance.

“It’s okay, you can always try again!”

Saying sorry was important for some children, but others thought it wouldn't help or could make things worse

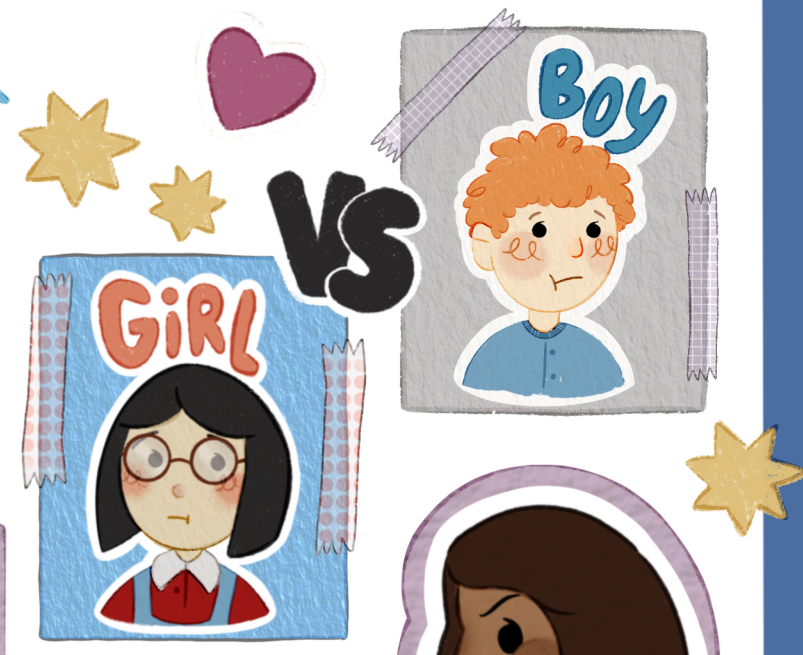
Should  
I say  
sorry?





# EXPERIENCES OF JUSTICE.

Young people said that they experienced justice differently depending on if they are a girl or a boy.



All of the children and young people felt mistrusted, under suspicion and not believed because of their age.



Often adults impacted on a good or bad experience of justice, and young people wanted adults to support you like “your Granny would”.



## GRANNY

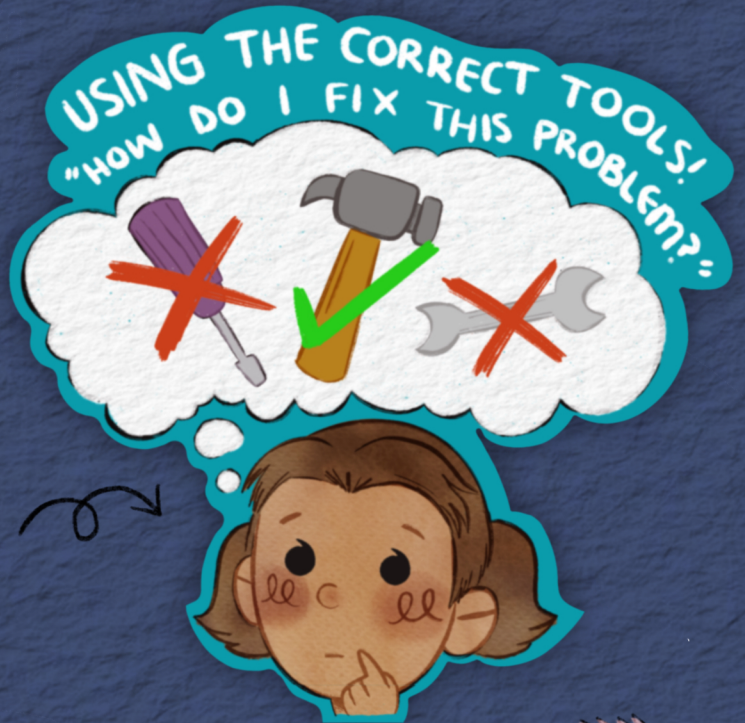


# THE FUTURE OF JUSTICE.



Children want to be listened to more often.

They would like support and tools to think about the consequences of their actions and how to make good decisions.



Emotional support was particularly important, as well as having things to do in the community.