Highland One World

Annual Review

2025-26



inspiring learning for a fairer future

HOW
Highland One World
Global Learning Centre

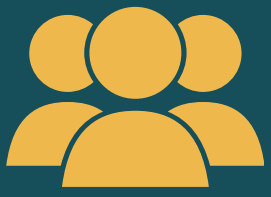
Our impact this year

Supporting educators across the North of Scotland to build the knowledge, confidence and skills to embed Global Citizenship Education in their practice.



69

COURSES delivered



1,299

PRACTITIONERS attended our courses



17,215

RESOURCE DOWNLOADS

What practitioners told us



98%

rated our courses Good or Excellent



99%

said our courses increased their confidence to incorporate Global Citizenship Education into their practice



98%

agreed that our courses were useful for developing learning and teaching

Foreword

At Highland One World, we believe that education can make a real difference to the world we live in. This belief has continued to drive our work and feels particularly important at a time when so many of the issues facing our world can seem overwhelming.

Conflict, the climate emergency, growing inequality and the rise of racism, prejudice and division remind us why Global Citizenship is so important. Against this backdrop, we've had another busy year, working with educators and partners across the North of Scotland to support children and young people to make sense of these challenges, develop a sense of hope and recognise that they can play a part in bringing about positive change.

I'm delighted to share this Annual Review which highlights some of the work we've been doing and its impact. Throughout the year, we've continued to develop resources, strengthen our networks and deliver an extensive programme of professional learning across the North of Scotland and beyond.

We were also delighted to welcome Julie Rutter to our team as our new Finance and Administration Officer, strengthening our capacity to deliver our work.

I'd like to thank our funders whose continued support makes so much of our work possible. I'm also very grateful to our trustees for their time, commitment and guidance, and to our small staff team for all their hard work and dedication. And, of course, a huge thank you to the educators, partners and young people we've had the privilege to work with throughout the year.

Catriona Willis
Coordinator, Highland One World

"One of the tasks of the progressive educator is to unveil opportunities for hope, no matter what the obstacles may be"

Paulo Freire



About Highland One World

Highland One World (HOW) is one of Scotland's Development Education Centres (DECs). Since 1992, we have supported educators, schools and communities to engage with the global issues that shape our lives and our shared future.

We believe that education has a vital role to play in creating a more **just**, **sustainable** and **peaceful world**. Through Global Citizenship Education, we support educators to explore issues such as **inequality, discrimination, human rights, sustainability, climate justice** and **global conflict** in ways that encourage critical thinking, dialogue and informed action.

Our Vision

People working together as informed and active citizens to build a more just and sustainable world

Our Strategic Priorities

Advocacy

Build understanding of, and support for, Global Citizenship Education and strengthen its place within local and national educational policy and practice

High-Quality Global Citizenship Education

Support educators with high-quality, responsive professional learning, resources and networks that build confidence to embed active Global Citizenship

Climate Justice

Embed climate justice across our work and strengthen support for climate justice education across the North of Scotland

Anti-Racist Education

Embed anti-racism across our work and work with partners and educators to strengthen anti-racist and decolonial practice

Organisational Development: Supporting everything we do

Strengthen our people, partnerships, and governance and systems to ensure HOW remains effective, responsive and sustainable

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Working in partnership

Partnerships are central to our work, extending our reach and strengthening Global Citizenship Education across the North of Scotland and nationally.

As one of three **Development Education Centres (DECs)** in Scotland, and a member of the **Scottish International Development Alliance (SIDA)**, we collaborate across these networks to develop **professional learning** and **advocate** for Global Citizenship at policy level.

Based in **Inverness Royal Academy**, our long-standing partnership with **Highland Council** remains particularly important, enabling us to work closely with practitioners and strategic leads to support the development of Global Citizenship, Learning for Sustainability, Anti-Racist Education and Rights-Based Learning.

We also work with strategic leads across **Moray, Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Orkney, Shetland, Eilean Siar, Argyll and Bute** and **Perth and Kinross** to provide support responsive to local needs.

Our wider partners this year included: **The Open University, University of Ibadan, YMCA Africa Alliance, Keep Scotland Beautiful, African, Caribbean, Asian and Mixed Heritage Association, Police Scotland, Refugee Action, Scottish Union Learning, Developing the Young Workforce** and **Skills Development Scotland.**



What is Global Citizenship?

Global Citizenship is an approach to learning that supports children and young people to **explore the connections between their own lives and the wider world.**

It creates opportunities to **ask questions, consider different perspectives and critically examine** the causes and consequences of global issues, including the role of power and inequality.

Global Citizenship Education develops the **knowledge, skills and values** learners need to work together with others to **help build a better world for everyone.**

Supporting Educators to Turn Global Citizenship Into Practice

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Throughout the year, we worked with educators across the North of Scotland, **sharing ideas, exploring challenging issues** and **developing practical approaches to Global Citizenship**. The following pages offer a flavour of what we've been doing.



Early Career Support

This year we worked in partnership with **7 Local Authorities** to deliver professional learning for **Provisionally Registered Teachers**, exploring **Global Citizenship, Learning for Sustainability, Rights** and **Anti-Racist Education.**

By working with educators at the start of their careers, we aim to build the **knowledge, skills** and **confidence** for Global Citizenship to become a **natural lens through which the curriculum is approached and delivered.**

14 Sessions **310 Practitioners**

> **Informative, lots of practical ideas & a bank of resources to use in the classroom. I now know how to start this journey with my class.**

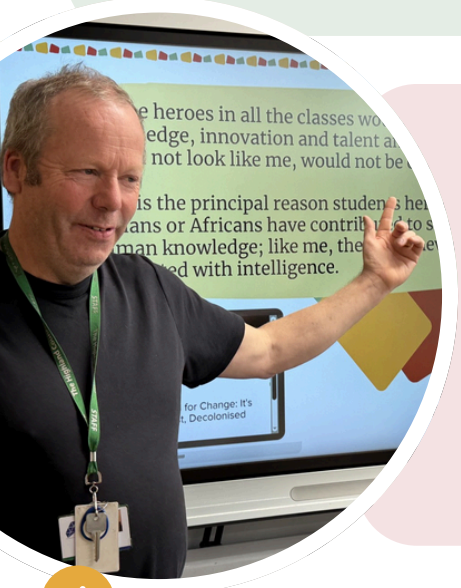
Global Citizenship in the Early Years

> **The course was inspirational. Really insightful, with lots of practical ideas that will be straightforward to implement in our setting.**

We continued to support **Early Years practitioners** through professional learning in **Global Citizenship, Rights** and **Anti-Racist Education**. Sessions explored **practical, play-based approaches** to support young children to think about **difference, fairness** and **belonging**, while developing their curiosity about people and the wider world.

8 Sessions **188 Practitioners**





Deepening Professional Learning

We delivered **two cohorts** of our year-long **GTCS-accredited Learning for a Better Future Programme.** This provided **sustained professional learning** through training, professional reading, reflection, mentoring and classroom-based enquiry.

11 Sessions **38 Participants**

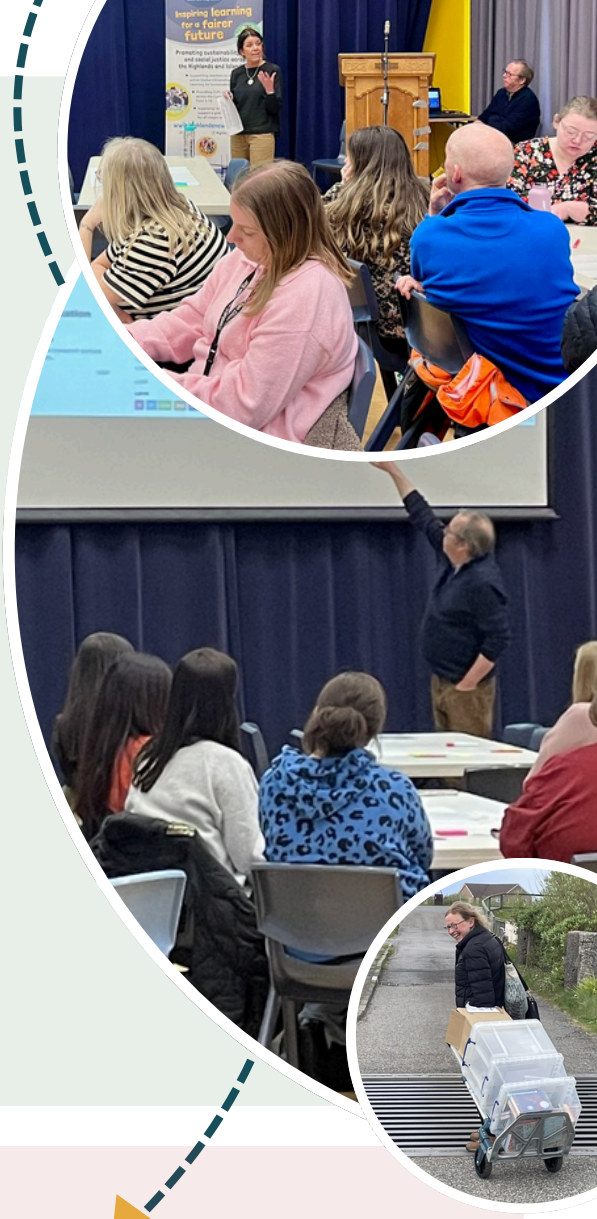
> **This course has broadened my thinking around Global Citizenship and allowed me to plan opportunities and experiences I would never have thought of before.**

Anti-Racist Education Across the North

Anti-Racist Education was a key focus of our professional learning this year, with a programme of support for educators to accompany the DEC's Anti-Racist Education resource and our *Windows and Mirrors* and *Seeds for Change* resources.

With support from the Scottish Government, we were delighted to be able to deliver **in-person training in Stornoway, Uist, Barra and Inverness**, alongside online sessions for practitioners across the North of Scotland.

These sessions supported practitioners to **deepen their understanding of racism** and **racial bias**, **reflect critically on their practice and build the confidence and practical skills** to embed anti-racist approaches and create more inclusive learning environments.



> **An excellent, thought provoking session that evoked a lot of great dialogue among colleagues**
>
> *Participant, Eilean Siar*

20 sessions

415 Practitioners

Responding to the Climate Emergency

Climate Justice and Action was another important strand of our professional learning this year, supporting educators to explore the climate emergency in ways that build understanding, agency and hope. We delivered training on **climate anxiety** and **climate action** alongside several sessions on **climate justice** in partnership with **Keep Scotland Beautiful.**

> **The course really increased my confidence to bring this into my P2 classroom**



SDG Seminars

This year our popular SDG Seminar Series explored two important global issues. Mohamed Omar from Refugee Action shared insights into the experiences of people seeking asylum in Scotland and ways to challenge misinformation. Dr Laurie Parsons from Royal Holloway, University of London, explored carbon colonialism and how wealthier countries shift environmental impacts onto poorer countries.

> **Thank you - it was a session that will have impact on my practice as a teacher educator. I have been given a session to develop for primary PGDE students about culturally sustaining pedagogies; Mohamed's insights will inform my plans**
>
> Participant, Refugees Welcome? Seminar

> Spaces like this are so important. I've really valued all the connections I've made through this group

Spaces for collective learning and advocacy



Highland Anti-Racist Education Network

Our **Highland Anti-Racist Education Network** met **9 times** this year, bringing together educators and community partners to **learn from one another, strengthen anti-racist practice and advocate for Anti-Racist Education** across Highland.

Members shared experiences and practice, discussed challenges and looked at what we could do together, helping to keep anti-racism on the agenda in schools and across the wider education system.

Global Teachers' Network

Our **Global Teachers' Network** met **three times** this year, providing a space for educators to **connect, share practice** and **explore different ways to bring Global Citizenship into learning.**

Sessions explored **Global Citizenship and Meta-skills** with Skills Development Scotland, **Global Citizenship through Music** with Fischy Music, and approaches to exploring **refugees and displacement** with learners in the run-up to Refugee Week.

> It's great to hear stories from other teachers, I've left feeling really inspired for my own practice



Teacher Advisory Groups

We also hosted **Primary and Secondary Teacher Advisory Groups**, creating opportunities for educators to help shape the direction of our work. Their insights and experiences help us ensure our professional learning and resources remain **relevant, responsive** and **grounded in the needs of educators and learners.**

Our Resources

We continued to develop and curate practical Global Citizenship resources to support teachers working at all levels and our resources remained popular throughout the year.

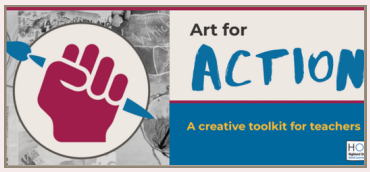
17,215
HOW resource downloads this year

New Resources

This year we launched **two new resources:**



Climate Voices supports secondary teachers to explore the climate emergency through an **intersectional** and **justice-focused lens**. Short videos bring together **perspectives from educators** alongside **voices from around the world sharing their experiences of climate change,** with practical activities to support learners to explore the issues.



Art for Action uses creative approaches to support children and young people to **explore global issues, express their ideas and perspectives**, and **consider how they can use art to contribute to social and environmental change.**

Our most downloaded resources



3,901
downloads



3,439
downloads

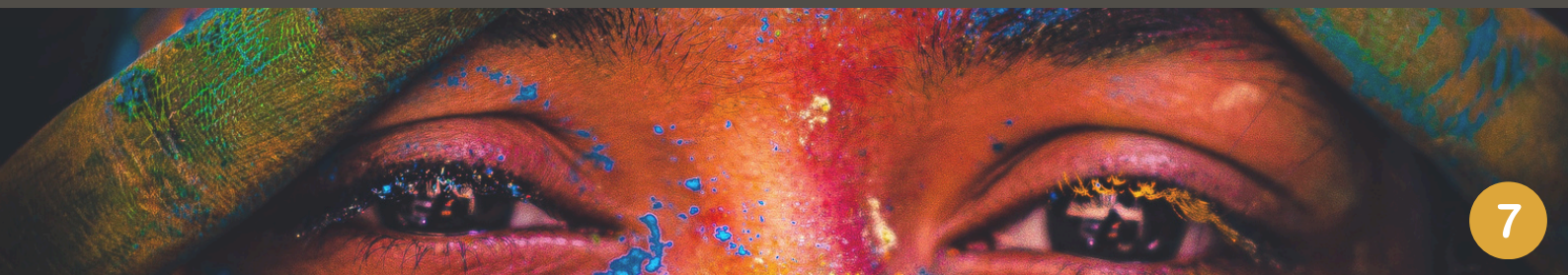


1,818
downloads

SIGNPOSTS for global citizenship

Our Signposts website continued to connect educators with Global Citizenship resources, professional learning and practical ideas for use in the classroom. The site also includes a growing **fiction section**, helping educators discover books that bring different perspectives and global issues into learning.

10,986
website visits this year



Mock COP 30:

Young people at the negotiating table

This year, in partnership with Open University Scotland and Developing the Young Workforce, we held another successful Mock COP event in Council Chambers.

Mock Cop 30 brought together young people from **secondary schools across Highland and Moray** to step into the roles of countries and organisations to negotiate some of the big questions facing the international community on the climate emergency.

Through **debate**, **negotiation** and **collaboration**, participants explored **climate justice**, **global interdependence** and the challenges of reaching collective decisions, while developing the **confidence and skills to make their voices heard**.



84
Young People

12
Delegations

7
Resolutions Debated



Taking on leadership roles

Young people were at the heart of the event, chairing negotiations, reporting on developments and putting questions on climate justice to an expert panel. Daniel from Culloden Academy took on the role of Mock COP President, while Cara, also from Culloden Academy, moderated the expert panel.

> **I learnt so much about the effects of climate change, the influences of power and so much more.**
>
> Maya, Inverness Royal Academy

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Global Citizenship in the Community

This year we worked with partners to extend conversations on Global Citizenship and Anti-Racist Education beyond formal education and create new opportunities for community learning and dialogue.



Learn North CLD Conference

This year we contributed to the **Learn North CLD Conference** in Inverness, exploring **Global Citizenship** and **Anti-Racist Education** in community learning. Through **two interactive workshops**, we supported participants to reflect on how **identity, experience** and **positionality** shape the way we see and respond to the world, and what this means for their practice.

Building Inclusive Communities Podcast

Building on our work from the CLD conference, we collaborated with **Scotland's International Development Alliance**, The **African, Caribbean, Asian and Mixed Heritage Association** and **Highland Council** on a podcast and panel discussion exploring **Building Inclusive Communities Through Learning**, as part of **Scottish Union Learning's Learning Week**.

The discussion explored **belonging, representation** and **navigating challenging conversations**, alongside the **role of Global Citizenship** in bringing communities together at a time of increasing polarisation.

We hope to build on this by developing a **library of podcasts**, providing an accessible, anytime learning resource for educators





Connecting Global Citizenship and Community Policing

We delivered a session to **local beat officers at Inverness Police Station**, exploring the role Global Citizenship Education can play in creating more cohesive communities. Community beat officers now regularly attend our Highland Anti-Racist Education Network.



> Global Citizenship Education helps us understand the world as it is, question why it is that way, and imagine how it could be different
>
> HOW

Trustees

Douglas Simpson, Chair
Janis Keast, Treasurer
Jill Kent, Secretary
Martyn Crawshaw
Audrey Kellacher
James Cook
Craig Lowther
Duncan Mackay
John Rutter
Caroline Eccles
Mary Patience

Staff

Catriona Willis, Co-ordinator
Rachel Avery, Education Officer
Ben Sparham, Education Officer
Julie Rutter, Administration and Finance Officer

Highland One World is funded by:

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Supported by players of PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY
Awarded funds from PEOPLE'S POSTCODE TRUST

The Gordon Cook Foundation

In kind: The Highland Council / Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd

www.highlandoneworld.org.uk
info@highlandoneworld.org.uk

Inverness Royal Academy, Culduthel Road, Inverness IV2 6RE
Registered Charity No. SC048130

HOW Highland One World Global Learning Centre