



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

EDUCATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

33rd Meeting, 2012 (Session 4)

Tuesday 11 December 2012

Present:

George Adam	Clare Adamson
Colin Beattie	Neil Bibby
Neil Findlay (Deputy Convener)	Stewart Maxwell (Convener)
Joan McAlpine	Liam McArthur

Apologies were received from Liz Smith.

The meeting opened at 11.15 am.

1. **Petition PE1391:** The Committee considered a Petition by Susan Calcluth-Russell on behalf of Renfrewshire Parent Council Forum calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to make it a legal requirement that qualified teachers teach children for 25 hours in a normal school week, subject to existing local flexibility of school hours in primary 1 and 2. The Committee agreed to keep the petition open and to write to the Scottish Government about the issues it raised.
2. **Petition PE1409:** The Committee considered a Petition by Linda Whitmore, on behalf of ENABLE Scotland, on training for education staff on learning disabilities and autistic spectrum disorders. The Committee agreed to close the petition and to write to the National Implementation Board and the General Teaching Council for Scotland about the issues it raised.
3. **Inquiry on decision making on whether to take children into care:** The Committee considered a note from the clerk.
4. **European Union Reporter:** The Committee received an update from its European Union Reporter.
5. **Post-16 Education (Scotland) Bill (in private):** The Committee considered its approach to the scrutiny of the Bill at Stage 1.

The meeting closed at 12.10 pm.

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