



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee

Jenny Gilruth MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
Scottish Government

19 November 2025

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Children (Withdrawal from Religious Education and Amendment of UNCRC Compatibility Duty) (Scotland) Bill

As you will be aware, my Committee published its report on the above Bill this morning.

Further to the publication of the report we note that the Supreme Court has issued its judgment in the matter of an application by JR87 and another for Judicial Review (Appellant).

The Committee appreciates that the judgment is in relation to religious education in Northern Ireland, however, the Committee would be grateful to know if this judgment has any implications for the Bill or religious education in Scotland more generally. In particular, the Committee would be interested on your reflections on the comments in the judgment on the stigmatisation created by withdrawal from religious education. This is an issue that emerged in the course of our scrutiny of the Bill and we would be grateful for your thoughts on this.

I appreciate that this judgment has only been issued today, but if you have any reflections you could share at this time that would be much appreciated.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

Karen Adam MSP
Convener