



## Power to the People

### Aim:

To reflect on the importance of giving everyone a fair say in decisions.

### Preparation and materials:

Video: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/33XqN68Xv0BQ9WfVdV0jxnk/british-values-democracy> [accessed 14.05.2020]

### Assembly:

Entry music: Power to the People, John Lennon

1. Explain that the school need to make an important decision about what new playground equipment to buy (adapt the decision to your particular school context). The head teacher has decided to ask all of the boys for their opinion. They will be able to vote and the equipment with the most votes will be bought. You might want to start giving out ballot papers to the boys. Ask the students what they think of this decision? Why is it not fair?
2. Explain that, in the UK, we live in a democracy. That means that adults vote for the people they want to make the decisions for the country. However, for a long time, it was only men that could vote, women did not get to have a say.
3. Watch the video about the suffragettes here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/33XqN68Xv0BQ9WfVdV0jxnk/british-values-democracy> [accessed 14.05.2020].
4. Explain that the suffragettes were a group of women, led by Emmeline Pankhurst, who campaigned for women to have the vote. Thinking about the video, what sort of things did they do to campaign? What virtues do you think the suffragettes show? How did the suffragettes show courage/resilience?
5. Thanks to the work of the suffragettes, all adults today are allowed to vote in elections and have their say. If the suffragettes had not been courageous and stood up for what was fair, women would not have been given the opportunity to vote at that time.

### Reflection:

Often, in group situations, it can feel like only the loudest get to be heard. Everyone in a group is equal and deserves to be listened to. This can be really difficult and means that we need to show the virtues of respect, patience and compassion. We need to become really good listeners.

# The Character Curriculum

Flourishing for Life



## Challenge:

When you are making group decisions this week, inside or outside of class, think about how you can make sure that everyone is listened to and gets a fair say.

