**Template for a news piece on your school’s website**

Hello!

**Below, we have pre-written some text you could use for a news piece on your school’s website.**

There is a version for before or during The Big Legal Lesson, and one for after depending on when you get chance to publish something. Feel free to copy and paste and fill in the blanks.

Get in touch with [oliver.walkden@youngcitizens.org](mailto:oliver.walkden@youngcitizens.org) if you have any questions.

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**Before or during The Big Legal Lesson**

**XX March 2024**

**[Your school name] joins national initiative to deliver legal education in the classroom**

From the 11th to the 22nd of March 2024, pupils at [insert your school name] will join tens of thousands of young people across schools in England and Wales taking part in a national campaign to promote legal literacy.

Now in its fourth year, [**The Big Legal Lesson**](https://www.youngcitizens.org/programmes/the-big-legal-lesson/) aims to help teachers start a conversation about the law in schools by providing a free pack of age-appropriate resources.

Created by education charity Young Citizens, with the support of Mishcon de Reya and The Law Society, the lesson plans and assemblies explore what the law is, who has the power to change it, and how these changes affect society.

Over 200,000 learners have taken part in the campaign since 2020, with thousands more expected to take part this year.

[Insert name of your Head], Headteacher at [insert name of your school], stated: “[insert quote e.g. We are proud to be joining a national network of teachers committed to providing valuable knowledge and skills that will serve our children throughout their futures. The Big Legal Lesson will serve to highlight the importance of the rule of law in defending our democracy and boosting our learners’ legal capabilities.]”

**Sherine Krause, Interim Executive Director, said**: “I am delighted to see The Big Legal Lesson return in 2024. At Young Citizens, we believe that all children and young people should understand their rights, responsibilities and the rule of law, whether or not they pursue a career in the legal sector. With the support of Mishcon de Reya, we know this year's campaign will once again light the spark of legal literacy for thousands of learners across England and Wales.”

**Samantha Kakati, Associate at Mishcon de Reya, said**: “We are excited to sponsor The Big Legal Lesson for a third consecutive year. Legal literacy is vital for business, democracy and justice, but very few children and young people encounter the law during school. For this to change, we believe teachers need free and flexible resources to introduce topics like rights, responsibilities and the rule of law. We hope The Big Legal Lesson continues to help children and young people access the knowledge, skills and motivation to engage meaningfully in society as active citizens.”

**Nick Emmerson, President of The Law Society, said**: “Ensuring young learners know their rights and responsibilities, whilst respecting the Rule of Law, is vital to securing access to justice for all. Whether or not they go on to practice law, The Big Legal Lesson is a fantastic opportunity for pupils and students to understand how our justice system works and why it matters to them. The Law Society is delighted to support this Young Citizens initiative, which we know will make a huge impact on young people, teachers and legal professionals alike.”

More information about the Big Legal Lesson can be found on the Young Citizens website.

Join the conversation on Twitter by tagging @YoungCitizensUK and using **#TheBigLegalLesson**

**After The Big Legal Lesson**

**XX March 2024**

**Pupils/students learn about the law as part of a national initiative to boost legal literacy**

Last week/last month/earlier this week, pupils/students from YXX joined tens of thousands of young people across schools in England and Wales learning about the law, human rights and the justice system in class.

The lessons took place as part of [The Big Legal Lesson](https://www.youngcitizens.org/programmes/the-big-legal-lesson/): a national campaign to help teachers start a conversation about the law in schools with a free pack of age-appropriate resources.

Created by education charity Young Citizens, with the support of Mishcon de Reya and The Law Society, the lesson plans and assemblies explored what the law is, who has the power to change it, and how these changes affect society.

Over 200,000 learners have taken part in the campaign since 2020, with thousands more taking part this year.

[Insert some thoughts or quotes from your learners here]

[Insert name of your Head], Headteacher at [insert name of your school], stated: “[insert quote e.g. We are proud to be joining a national network of teachers committed to providing valuable knowledge and skills that will serve our children throughout their futures. The Big Legal Lesson will serve to highlight the importance of the rule of law in defending our democracy and boosting our learners’ legal capabilities.]”

**Sherine Krause, Interim Executive Director, said**: “I am delighted to see The Big Legal Lesson return in 2024. At Young Citizens, we believe that all children and young people should understand their rights, responsibilities and the rule of law, whether or not they pursue a career in the legal sector. With the support of Mishcon de Reya, we know this year's campaign will once again light the spark of legal literacy for thousands of learners across England and Wales.”

**Samantha Kakati, Associate at Mishcon de Reya, said**: “We are excited to sponsor The Big Legal Lesson for a third consecutive year. Legal literacy is vital for business, democracy and justice, but very few children and young people encounter the law during school. For this to change, we believe teachers need free and flexible resources to introduce topics like rights, responsibilities and the rule of law. We hope The Big Legal Lesson continues to help children and young people access the knowledge, skills and motivation to engage meaningfully in society as active citizens.”

**Nick Emmerson, President of The Law Society, said**: “Ensuring young learners know their rights and responsibilities, whilst respecting the Rule of Law, is vital to securing access to justice for all. Whether or not they go on to practice law, The Big Legal Lesson is a fantastic opportunity for pupils and students to understand how our justice system works and why it matters to them. The Law Society is delighted to support this Young Citizens initiative, which we know will make a huge impact on young people, teachers and legal professionals alike.”

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