What does this mean for society?

In the last few lessons you have learnt about the importance of brain development in the early years of life. These years can impact on long-term health, wellbeing, learning and earnings potential.

In your group, discuss what this means for society. If you were in charge, what would you change? What would you keep the same? How would you ensure the experiences of a child in the first years of life would lay the foundation for lifelong health and wellbeing?

Some prompts to get you started are given below. Be ready to feedback some of your ideas to the class.

When a new baby is born, parents are given paid time off work. How long should this be for? Should it just be for mothers? Fathers? Both?

Does everybody have a role for bringing up children or is this just the responsibility of parents?

What could the Government do to help children’s development in the early years?

Should parents have to attend classes once they know they are pregnant?

How would you make sure childcare workers have the knowledge and understanding they need to do their job?