



A Brief History.

UNICEF, was founded after World War 11 in 1946, to help European children that faced famine and disease.

It has been working to improve the lives of children across the world ever since UNICEF ensures that the children it protects are healthy, receive some education, are protected from violent environments, have access to healthcare and, perhaps most importantly, are not forgotten by society.



The UN Convention on the Rights of The Child (UNCRC)

The UNCRC was first established in 1989 by the UN, member states. The Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child's life.

Countries throughout the world believe and recognise that every child has rights, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status. 192 out of 193 countries have signed the UNCRC and the UK signed in 1991.

St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School A Guide for Parents and Carers

The Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA)

An initiative run by UNICEF UK, which encourages schools to place the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) at the heart of its school's planning policies, practice and ethos.

St Elizabeth's is proud to have received the Recognition of Commitment to the Rights of a Child and is now on its journey to the Silver Rights Aware Award.

Why is St Elizabeth's committed to teaching our children about their Rights?

Being a Rights Respecting school means that our children understand they are valued, nurtured, listened to and grow to reach their full potential as thoughtful and respectful citizens.

Knowing their rights children have self-respect and know to respect each other in all interactions.



As a school community we are committed to encouraging and promoting pupil voice. We have embraced the principle that children should know they are listened to and that their views taken seriously.



How does teaching our children about their rights link to our varied and lively curriculum?

The academic year began with our children establishing their own RRSA Class Charters and a whole school fundraising events raising money for CAFOD.

Spurred on from the above: a sample of some of the lessons and projects that have taken place:

Themed assemblies; RRSA/PSHCE lessons; RE lessons; English, Geography, History lessons will all begin to be linked to CRC articles alongside recently Anti-bullying and Internet safety weeks.

Throughout each year numerous fundraising events take place for various charities such as Mission Together, CAFOD, Wood Street Mission, Macmillan and St. Ann's Hospice. The work of Pupil Parliament, Mini Vinnies have all had an impact on promoting the CRC.

The modelling and practice of Rights Respecting Language has helped our children have a greater awareness of their rights.

Article 2, encompasses the value the school community places on helping our children know their rights.

All children have these rights, no matter who they are...what language they speak, what their religion is, whether they are a boy or girl, what their culture is, whether they have a disability, whether they are rich or poor. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.



St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School A Guide for Parents and Carers



St Elizabeth's recognises and values that our parents and carers are the extended family of our school. We ask you to support your child to learn about the Rights of a Child at home.

How can you support your child at home?

Take time to talk with your child about what they have learned in school regarding children's rights.

Discuss rights that have been respected or denied as opportunities arise from everyday life experiences or from news media.

Value their voice and ask their opinion on children's rights.

St Elizabeth's values, promotes and listens to pupil voice. We champion our children to give their views and opinions regarding any issue that matters to them, in school and out of school.

At the beginning of the academic year children elected Pupil Parliament representatives who are also the RRSA Steering Group.

Our Steering Group meet regularly to discuss how the children of St Elizabeth's can improve their school encompassing the CRC and share what has been discussed with their classes. They have proved to be excellent role-models and spokespeople for the children.

Our teachers and support staff, have all received training on the UNCRC.

What impact does the CRC have?

On our school:

- The principals and values of RRSA has an over-reaching positive impact on the learning environment.
- Relationships within the whole school community are enhanced as a result of the shared rights-respecting language and the shared values and principals.
- More inclusive approach.

On our children:

UNICEF state that there is a pattern emerging when the principles and values of the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (CRC) are taught and reinforced throughout school life; children and the wider school community benefit.

- Improved self-esteem and wellbeing
- Positive impact on relationships and behaviour
- Engagement in their own learning and in school life is enhanced
- Positive attitudes towards diversity
- Reduction of discriminatory behaviour
- Greater moral understanding and the need for global justice
- Increased self-belief and value resulting from a greater say in decision making in their school

BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
IN THE WORLD
HAS ONE THING
IN COMMON.
THEIR RIGHTS

unicef
UNITED KINGDOM



RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS

Rights –Respecting Articles that mattered most to our children.

Article 12: The right to give your opinion and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

Article 15: The right to choose your own friends.

Article 24: The right to the best health care possible.

Article 28: The right to a good quality education.

Article 31: The right to play and rest.

Article 39: The right to help if you've been hurt, neglected or badly treated.

Article 42: The right to know your rights.

View summary of the UNCRC: [https://downloads.unicef.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/](https://downloads.unicef.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/UNCRC_summary.pdf)

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