

For Children and Young People

INFORMATION

About the Children and Young People's Survey for the youth report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child



YOUTH@CLC

**RIGHTS HERE
RIGHT NOW.**

Children and Young People's Survey



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Note: In this document, and in the survey, we also provide alternative words in brackets to help with the meanings.

RIGHTS AND THE UNCRC



What are 'Rights'?

'Rights' are sometimes called 'entitlements' – something you should have or be able to do. For example, you have the right to an education (go to school), or to have a say and be listened to about things that affect you.

What is the UNCRC?

In 1991, the UK government signed up to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which explains the rights for everyone under 18 years old.

The UNCRC includes general principles which are important for everyone to consider [think about]. These are that every child aged under 18 has the right:



To give their opinions and have these taken seriously by adults when decisions are being made about them



To be treated fairly and without discrimination



To be given the care and protection they need, with consideration given to the best interests of the child in all actions involving them



To be given the support they need to survive and develop to their fullest potential

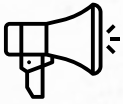
You can find out more information about your rights under the UNCRC by visiting www.childrenslawcentre.org.uk/uncrc/

Signing up to Children's Rights

By signing the UNCRC, the government promised:



To protect children's rights – make sure children are allowed to do what their rights say



To promote children's rights – make sure people know what rights children and young people have

PROMOTE
Protect

Keeping the Promise – Reporting to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

Every few years, the UK government has to write a report about how well it is doing at keeping the promise to protect and promote children’s rights. This report is sent to a group of experts – the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Organisations working with children and young people also send reports about how they think the government is doing. They make sure the UN Committee hears the views of children and young people.

The next UK government report will be sent to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in June 2022. It will include information from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England.



The Children’s Law Centre (CLC) is a charity that works to protect the rights of all children living in Northern Ireland. During March and April, Youth@CLC (an advisory panel made up of 13-17 year olds) is gathering information from children and young people using an online survey and workshops with specific groups. This information will be used to write a children and young people’s report, which will be sent to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in September.



THE SURVEY

Who is Asking Me to Do this Survey?

We are Youth@CLC – a group of young people who give advice to the Children's Law Centre. We want to find out what 12-17 year olds think about children's rights here.

What is the Survey About?

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) says that everyone aged under-18 should have a say in decisions affecting them and be listened to [Article 12]. They should be treated fairly [Article 2], helped to develop to their fullest potential [Article 6], and know about their rights [Article 42].

By doing this survey you can tell us if this happens and what you know about children's rights.



What Will You Do With My Answers?

Your answers will be included in a Report for the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child.

In January 2023, the UN Committee will use the report and other information to examine [check] how the UK government has promoted and protected children's rights. It will then tell the government what changes are needed to make Northern Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales better places for children and young people.

Your answers are anonymous so you can be honest. The survey results will be analysed by Youth@CLC, the Children's Law Centre, independent researcher Dr Deena Haydon and colleagues from Save the Children NI, in line with the Children's Law Centre's [privacy policy](#).

How Do I Complete the Survey?

You can do the survey now by clicking [here](#)

If you would like to tell us more about your views on children's rights, please contact Sinead McSorley at the Children's Law Centre. Sinead's email is: sinead@childrenslawcentre.org or you can phone her on: (028) 9024 5704.



WHATEVER YOUR QUESTION
ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS, ASK REE.

Always there, always safe, always right,
always anonymous, always confidential, never judgemental.

REE
Rights
Responder



USEFUL CONTACTS

Whatever your question about your rights, you can ask REE at reerights.com

REE Rights Responder is a legal chatbot that answers questions about your rights. You can also request a REE Live Chat directly with one of the Children's Law Centre's legal advisers. Or you can find out information about other places to find help.

REE is always there, always safe, always right, always confidential, always anonymous and never judgemental.

You can also find a list of counselling and support services [here](#)



Save the Children