

Rights Steering Group

Our Rights Respecting Pupil Council have been working very hard with Mr Winning and Miss McKeown to help spread rights awareness throughout our school and the wider community.

They have organised activities, led assemblies, and created displays to help everyone understand the importance of children's rights and how we can respect them every day.

Their enthusiasm and commitment are helping to make our school an even more inclusive, caring, and respectful place for everyone.

We are delighted to share that our school recently took part in our Gold Rights Respecting Schools reaccreditation visit, and it was an incredibly positive day. Our children, parents and partners have been working together to demonstrate our strong commitment to children's rights, and this shone through during the assessment. The assessor was extremely impressed with our pupils' confidence, awareness, and passion for children's rights. Our young people spoke so well about their experiences, their learning, and the many opportunities they have to share their voice and influence school life. We are very proud of them! Our ethos at St. John's was highlighted as a real strength, with special recognition given to how we empower our pupils to lead change and take ownership of their learning. We were thrilled that our Follow Your Own Friday approach was praised as an example of very good practice.



Strand A

Pupil Rights Learning Visits

Our Rights Steering group conducted learning visits throughout the school to assess and reflect on relationships within the school and the use of a reference to rights through learning activities. This was conducted during 'Follow You Own Friday' where there is focus on Learner Agency and Pupil Voice and takes place on a weekly basis.

We were checking that rights were being respected'-
Layla, P5



Strand A

Rights Steering Group/ Rights Respecting Pupil Council

Our group includes staff, pupils, and parents. They have helped to develop the content of our Rights Tour, Develop the Rights Steering Group Team and have developed resources and activities for teaching staff.

'We can teach the whole school about rights'-
Daniel P6



The Steering Group ordered and organised a variety of stage- appropriate Rights resources for the whole school.



Whole School Charters

Our whole school charter was created with pupils, staff, dinner ladies and parents .

'The whole school charter makes us all part of a team'- Orla P7



Our Whole School Charter



Duty Bearers (Adults)	UNCRC Articles	Rights Holders (Children)
*Ensure all pupils feel welcomed, regardless of their background, or differences. *Celebrate the diversity of cultures in the school community. *Provide equal opportunities for pupils to participate in activities and lessons. *Address and prevent discriminatory behaviours to ensure a safe environment.	 2	*Treat all peers with kindness and respect regardless of religions, race abilities or gender. *Include others in games and activities without excluding based on differences. *Speak out against discrimination and report to a member of staff.
*Provide opportunities for pupils to express their ideas, thoughts, and concerns. *Allow children to express themselves creatively throughout the curriculum. *Take pupils' opinions seriously, especially in decisions affecting their learning or school life.	 13	*Share your thoughts and opinions whilst being respectful to others. *Listen to others' viewpoints without dismissing them. *Participate respectfully in creative activities to express ideas and opinions. *Be active in Pupil Voice Groups and classroom discussions to offer improvements to the school.
*Encourage formation of Pupil Voice Groups and clubs to ensure children have opportunity to participate. *Provide spaces for groups to meet. *Ensure Pupil Voice Groups are inclusive. *Create opportunities for collaborative learning to foster sense of community.	 15	*Ensure other children in your Pupil Voice Group are included. *Join Pupil Voice Groups or clubs that interest you to contribute to a culture of togetherness. *Respect the rights of others to join groups without judgement.
*Provide quality education for all children - make sure resources and support is available for children who benefit from it. *Develop meaningful and engaging lessons that inspire curiosity and a love for learning. *Ensure classrooms and school environment are safe, comfortable, and conducive to learning.	 28	*Attend school regularly and engage actively in your learning by participating in lessons and asking questions. *Help classmates who may be struggling by working together to share knowledge, creating a collaborative environment. *Take care of school resources and materials to ensure everyone can benefit from them.
*Create a balanced curriculum that promotes academic, emotional, social, and physical development. *Encourage pupils to ask questions, think critically and explore different viewpoints. *Teach pupils about their role in the wider world.	 29	*Work hard in school and participate in activities. *Take the initiative in your learning by asking questions, seeking help when needed and exploring subjects that interest you outside of the classroom. *Be aware of how your choices affect others. *Show respect for different cultures, values and people. *Contribute positively to the school community.

Lunch Hall Charters

Involving catering staff in creating the Lunch Hall Charter reinforced that everyone in school is a duty bearer.

'The dinner ladies are the people in the gym hall the most and they need to know how rights work in our school'- Mikayla P7

'They are in the kitchen in our school, and they need to know about rights'- Ahmad P3

'Everybody needs to know about rights'- Bradley P2

