

Where are we now?

We have very successfully been awarded our **Level 2 Award** which is the highest award available. As a school, we are continuing to work hard on learning about children's rights at a deeper and wider level so the values and principles of the Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC or CRC) continue to be fully embedded into the whole school's practice.

Quotes from our Level 2 Assessment report are as follows:

(1) Rights are at the heart of the school's work to build strong relationships and in its systems and structures for resolving conflicts and responding when things go wrong.

(2) Putting the UNCRC at the centre of this school community, alongside their Catholic Christian ethos has in the words of one member of the team 'given us all a common goal...staff and children are now working together collaboratively across all stages and ages.'

At Level 2, we are continuing to broaden:

...teaching and learning about rights through assemblies, topics, focus days/weeks and displays. **...teaching and learning through rights** by modelling rights respecting language and attitudes and making strategic decisions that involve pupils. **...our knowledge of being ambassadors** for the rights of others: developing as rights-respecting citizens.

How does RRS benefit your children?

It is made clear that children have rights as expressed in the UNCRC and they share these with all other children in the world. They are taught that although they have these rights, they must also respect the rights of others. The UNCRC recognises the central importance of parents. It states that the government must respect the role of parents in providing appropriate guidance for their children, including how children should exercise their rights.

Children who have learnt about their rights show:

- A better understanding of what it means to have rights and to show respect to others.
- More positive attitudes to school.
- Better relationships with their peers and teachers.
- Higher self-esteem.

How can parents support their child to learn about the convention at home?

- ◆ Take time to ask your child what he/she has learned recently regarding children's rights.
- ◆ Discuss the ideas from assemblies or class and try to think of examples from your own experiences, or from the media, of rights being respected or denied.
- ◆ Discuss how your child or family can promote respect for rights, or help those whose rights have been denied.
- ◆ Ask your child's opinions on rights.

The learning of rights and respect begins at home.

Children often learn what they see and hear. By being involved in your child's learning and showing an interest in what they do, you are helping your child to learn the importance of giving and sharing with others.

We hope you have found this leaflet helpful. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

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St John's Primary School
is a Rights Respecting School



LEVEL 2

**An approach based on the
United Nations Convention on
the Rights of the Child
(UNCRC)**

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

The UNCRC was set up in 1989 by the countries of the UN, and is an agreement by the governments of the world saying what rights all children should have. 191 out of 193 countries have signed the UNCRC and the UK signed it in 1991.

What is Rights Respecting School Award (RRSA)?

UNICEF began working on this award in 2002 and has designed it for use by schools in the UK to help them to adhere to the values and principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC 1989). Globally UNICEF has developed the Child Friendly School Scheme. The core principles are:

- Non discrimination-rights for all children.
- Best interests of the child-impact of actions on children.
- Right to life, survival and development -health, safety, play, education.
- Respect for views of the child-views sought and considered according to age and maturity.

Rights and Respect at St John's PS

We want children at St.John's Primary School to learn about their rights and feel empowered throughout their education. The aim is to help children achieve their potential and become responsible citizens.

A **RRS** is a community where children's rights are learned, taught, practised, respected, protected and promoted. We learn about our rights by putting them into practise every day.

A **RRS** not only teaches about children's rights but also models rights and respect in all relationships: between teachers/adults and pupils, between adults and between pupils.

Within school, we look at 42 rights. Some examples include:

Article 7: Your right to a name and nationality.

Article 12: Your right to say what you think should happen and to be listened to.

Article 15: Your right to meet with friends and join groups and clubs.

Article 24: Your right to good food and water and to see a doctor if you are ill.

Article 28: Your right to learn and to go to school.

RRS in St.John's Primary



School and Classroom Charters

Within St.John's Primary School, every class make a class charter which is suited to their class individuality. Each class choose the rights they want within their classroom. Classes then discuss how children and adults would respect these rights. A dinner hall charter is also discussed and agreed by the children.

Right of the week

At whole school and departmental assemblies the Right of the week is given and discussed. Links are made with the Global Citizenship calendar for respecting rights around the world and with the Liturgical calendar. Classes will have the right of the week on display and will link the Right of the week into their day to day teaching of the curriculum. The RRS representative from each class will be responsible for changing the right of the week.

Stage assemblies

Each term stage assemblies for parents take place. This is where we share learning and value each others achievements. Curricular work in relation to RRS is presented by the children.

Pupil Groups:

Within St.John's P.S, we have 6 pupil groups: Health (including Fairtrade), Eco (including JRSO), Pupil Newsletter, School Choir, Pupil Council (including RRS) and Library (including DFS). Each of these groups link with RRS and with the articles of the convention.

Curriculum Planning

Within our school pupils are learning about their rights across the curriculum.

Campaigning

Pupils are continuing to drive forward any campaigns which will raise awareness of certain issues and the rights of the child.

Ambassadors

Pupils are ambassadors for RRS and help lead other schools in achieving their Level 1 and Level 2 status.