

Rights Respecting Schools Award

Wednesday 9th November 2016



Rights Respecting Schools Award

What does this mean?

Why are we talking about this today?

What has it got to do with St. Augustine's?

What has it got to do with me?

Rights Respecting Schools Award



UNICEF is the world's leading organisation for children and their rights

In 1989, governments across the world promised all children the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

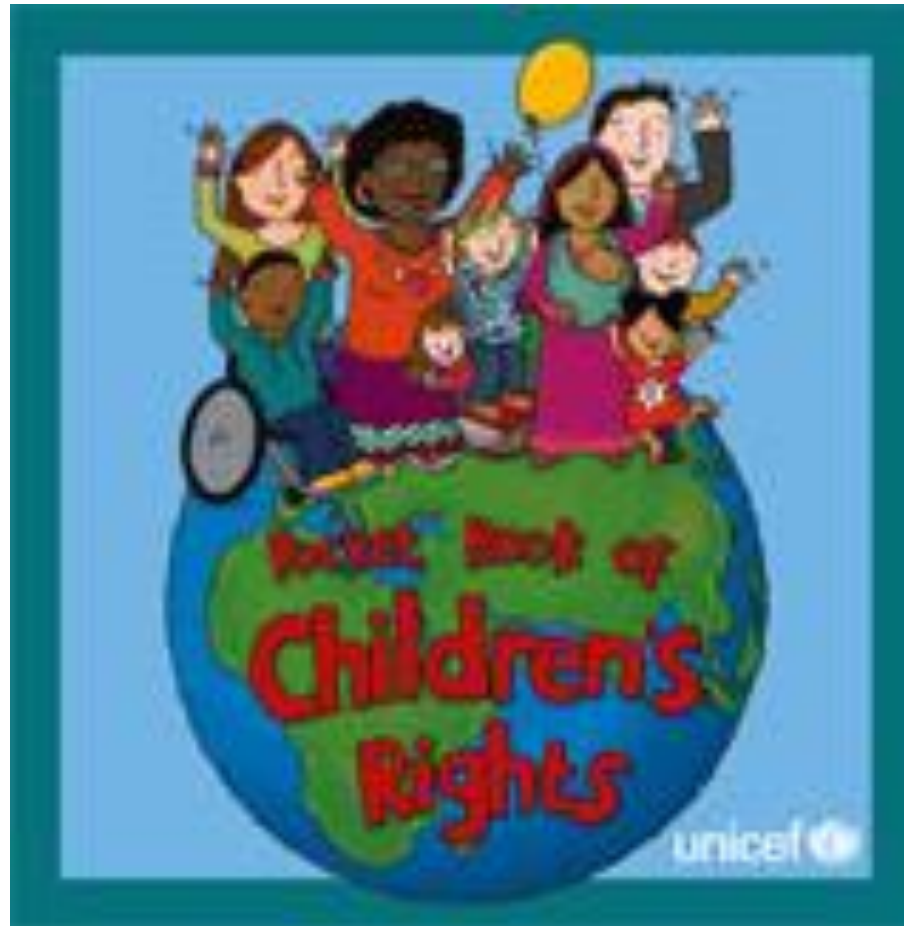
Rights Respecting Schools Award



The rights are *international law*.

All the countries in the world have signed to make this domestic law in their country. Except for two...

What are the rights?



What are the rights?

There are 54 articles (rights) in the convention.

Article 1

Everyone under 18 years of age has all the rights in this Convention.

Article 42

Governments should make the convention known to children and adults.

Wants and Needs

The basic needs that should be met so children and young people grow up to reach their full potential are enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



Article 12

Children have the right to say what they think should happen, when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken into account.

Article 19

Governments should ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse and neglect by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

Article 24

Children have the right to the best possible health, and to clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment so that they will stay healthy. Rich countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 28

Children have a right to an education. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Primary education should be free. Wealthy countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

Article 31

All children have a right to relax and play, and to join a wide range of activities.

Unicef – The Rights

These rights describe what a child needs to survive, grow, and live up to their potential in the world. They apply equally to every child, no matter who they are or where they come from. All children have rights, even those affected by conflict or emergencies.

The Rights at St. Augustine's

We will begin our journey towards becoming a Rights Respecting School



What is a Rights Respecting School?

A Rights Respecting School puts the CRC (Convention on the Rights of the Child) at the heart of a school's culture and ethos to improve well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities to their fullest potential



Values that it covers

Respect

Honesty

Kindness & Compassion

Equality

Fairness

Generosity

Integrity

Courage

Determination

Politeness

Loyalty

Friendship

Commitment

Empathy

Acceptance

Co-operation

Hope

Excellence

Responsibility

Patience

Love

Trust

The Benefits

Improved self-esteem and well-being

Improved relationships and behaviour (reductions in bullying and exclusions and improved attendance)

Improved engagement in learning

Positive attitudes towards diversity in society and the reduction of prejudice

Children and young people's enhanced moral understanding

Children and young people's support for global justice

Children and young people become more involved in decision-making in schools.

Impact evaluation analysis from over 300 Rights Respecting Schools

99% of headteachers believe that Rights Respecting Schools Award has had a positive impact on relationships and behaviour

99% of headteachers considered that the Award contributed to children and young people being more engaged in their learning

98% of headteachers considered that RRSA impacted on children and young people's positive attitudes to diversity & overcoming prejudices

96% of headteachers considered that working on RRSA improved children's and young people's respect for themselves and others

75% of headteachers stated that RRSA has had a positive impact on reducing exclusions and bullying.

Data collected between 2011 and December 2013.

Next...

Look at the Rights

Which do you think we already do at St. Augustine's?

Why do you need to know?

All children have these rights and we have to respect them. There are no conditions attached to them. They cannot be taken away.

Children are the “rights holders” and adults are the “duty bearers”.

The language we use around children is very important – we have to model the right language.

What have we already done?

Creating a steering group.

Carried out an audit by interviewing Focus Groups

Created an Action Plan

What next?

Regular Steering Group meetings

Assemblies

Lessons

Displays

School website

Regular monitoring

Global links – charities

Inform parents

Class Charters

Class Charters



What is a Class Charter?

A collaboration between children and adults to agree a charter for a rights respecting classroom.

Children and adults select the rights that are most important to them in their class.

Class Charters



In learning that the rights are universal, children understand that their rights are bound up in respecting the rights of others.

Examples

Play in a way that does not stop others playing.

Article 31 – Every child has a right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Make sure we do not waste our time in school or stop others from learning.

Article 28 – All children have the right to an education.

Examples



Examples



How is this different to rules?

Rules are often externally imposed whereas charters are democratically negotiated using an *internationally agreed values framework*.

Class Charters indicate that a significant part of the school is to help realise the rights of the child.

What next?

It becomes part of our school culture

Rights Respecting Schools

Children's rights through children's eyes

