

Dear Parent/Carer,

UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting School Award

We are delighted to share that (Insert name of school here) is working with the UK Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK) to work towards the Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA). This initiative places children's rights at the very core of our school's ethos and culture, aiming to enhance wellbeing and help every child realise their full potential.

UNICEF is the world's leading organization for children, and in the UK, it supports thousands of schools to become safe, inspiring, and rights respecting learning environments.

The foundation of this award is the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), adopted by governments worldwide in 1989. The Convention sets out the rights every child needs to survive, grow, participate, and thrive.

By working towards the Rights Respecting Schools Award, pupils will learn about their rights as outlined in the Convention and how to put them into practice every day. They will learn both about rights and through rights, developing as rights-respecting citizens locally and globally. Schools that achieve the Gold Rights Respecting School Award demonstrate that children's rights are embedded in school life and that mutual respect is modelled in all relationships and interactions.

We hope you will support us on our journey to becoming a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School. Please take a few moments to read the questions and answers on the back of this letter. To learn more about the Convention on the Rights of the Child, visit <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention>.

You may also find our CRC summary helpful: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rights-respecting-schools/the-rrsa/introducing-the-crc/>.

For further information, please visit: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa>.

Yours sincerely,

Rights Respecting Schools Award – Suggested Q&A for Parents/Carers

Q1: What is the Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA)?

A: The RRSA is an initiative run by UNICEF UK that helps schools embed children's rights in their daily school life. RRSA helps give children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

Q2: Why is our school working towards this award?

A: By working towards the RRSA, our school is committed to placing children's rights at the heart of everything we do. This helps improve wellbeing, supports every child to reach their potential, and encourages a culture of mutual respect.

Q3: What are children's rights?

A: Children's rights are the basic things every child needs to survive, grow, participate, and reach their potential. These rights are set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which the UK government has agreed to uphold.

Q4: How will this benefit my child?

A: Children in Rights Respecting Schools feel safer, happier, and more included. They learn about their rights and how to respect the rights of others, which helps them become confident, active citizens both in school and in the wider world.

Q5: What will my child learn?

A: Pupils will learn about their rights as set out in the CRC and how to put them into practice every day. They will also learn about being rights-respecting citizens locally and globally.

Q6: How can parents and carers get involved?

A: We encourage you to talk with your child about what they are learning and to read the information we send home. You can find more about the Convention on the Rights of the Child at <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention> and our school's RRSA journey at <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa>.

Q7: Where can I find more information?

A: For further details, please contact our Rights Respecting Schools Coordinator (insert name here) or visit the UNICEF UK RRSA website: <https://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa>.