



Special Mission – Our Rights

A lesson / activity plan to introduce children in Foundation Phase to Children's Rights and the role of the Children's Commissioner for Wales (CCfW).

Resources

- Two A4 cards with WANT written on one and NEED on the other
- [Film to show who Sally is](#)
- [Poster of children's rights](#)

Learning Objectives

- Pupils consider what children's rights are under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)
- Pupils consider what rights they have (needs they have)
- Pupils understand who Sally Holland is

Key Vocabulary

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): the international document that lays out children's rights.

Rights: "Things you need to grow up happy, healthy and safe"

Children's Commissioner for Wales: "Sally Holland is an adult in Wales whose job is to help all children in Wales be happy, healthy and safe"

Key Messages

All children in Wales should have what they need to grow up happy, healthy and safe

All adults should make sure they support children to get their rights

Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner, stands up for all children in Wales

Introduction: What are Children's Rights?

- Explain to pupils that you are going to discuss things they want and things they need and you are going to do an activity to see if they can tell the difference.
- Display two A4 sheets on different walls, one saying WANT and one saying NEED. Explain to the pupils you will read out something and they have to go and stand next to the card to give their answer – is this a thing you want or need?
- Lead the activity, choosing 3-4 items from the list of needs and 3-4 from the list of wants - you can also add your own 'wants'.

Needs:

- Someone to look after you
- Some healthy food to eat
- Someone to keep you safe
- Somebody to be your friend
- Somewhere to play
- A home to live in
- Someone to listen to you

Wants:

- Chocolate every morning for breakfast
 - A house with a swimming pool
 - An ipad
 - A pet
 - Presents for your birthday
 - A television
- Explain there are some things we want and some things we need. The things we need in order to grow up happy, healthy and safe are called RIGHTS – [Show the UNCRC poster](#) and explain that ALL CHILDREN across the world aged 0-18 have all these 42 rights (called Articles).

MAIN: Who keeps you safe and who can listen to you?

- Invite pupils to share their ideas about other things that can help them grow up happy, healthy and safe. Where appropriate and age-relevant link to rights e.g. relate to Article 19 (you have the right to be safe), relate healthy food or medical help to Article 24 (you have the right to good food and clean water and to see a doctor when you are ill) relate a teacher, school or classroom to Article 28 (you have the right to an education).
- Explain that adults must also know about children's rights (UNCRC) as it is their job to make sure children get what they need (their rights) to grow up happy, healthy and safe and the Welsh Government agrees with this.
- Give pupils a blank piece of paper and ask them to draw around their hand. Then ask them to draw or write the name of someone that they can talk to in each of their fingers if they don't feel happy, healthy or safe.
- Ask pupils to share these ideas e.g. friends, family, teachers, police. Explain that all children should be able to talk to someone if they don't feel happy. Explain that there is someone else who can provide a helping hand – Sally Holland – Children's Commissioner for Wales.
- [Show clip of Sally](#) explaining how she can support children in Foundation Phase

Development

- Ask the pupils "Who are there most of in this class - adults or children?" The answer is always children so ask, "Who else needs to make sure you keep happy, healthy and safe in this class?" Encourage children to identify themselves and lead a discussion to link this with class rules (e.g. kind hands and kind feet, looking after each other, letting us know if your friend is sad.)

Plenary: Shout about your rights!

- Check and reinforce pupils understanding of the objectives and key messages
- Use this opportunity to introduce your Super Ambassadors to the class!

TOP TIP: Celebrate your work by tweeting @childcomwales #RightsHour. You'll also find great ideas of how other schools in Wales are teaching and learning about rights using our twitter hashtag #RightsHour

Extension Ideas:

- All About Me / Pob Plentyn colouring book is a great free resource for Foundation Phase. You can find this and other free resources available from the Welsh Government here
<http://www.uncrcletsgetitright.co.uk/index.php/children-young-people/resources>
- Ask pupils to think about whether all children in their school / in Wales / in the world get what they need to grow up healthy, happy and safe? This may lead to discussions that allow them a chance to explore the idea of rights.