# Lesson 1 – Introduction



Introduction to Children's Rights	
Grade Level: FP – KS5 ALN	Lesson Title: Class Charter

### **Learning Objective:**

- Develop an understanding of Children's Rights
- Identify the Children's Commissioner for Wales
- Create and sign a Class Charter

For the student's benefits, explain what students will be able to do by the end of the lesson and why these objectives are important to accomplish.

**Some Learners:** Will be able to identify the Children's Commissioner for Wales and remember a number of children's rights important to them.

Most Learners: Will offer their ideas and choose which children's rights they feel are important for their class charter

All Leaners: Will participate in the signing of the contract with their class teacher

# **Key Questions:**

- What are children's rights?
- Who is the Children's Commissioner for Wales?
- What rights do you feel are important to you?
- Who has these rights?

### Materials/ Resources needed:

- Picture Pack
- Children's Rights Poster/ Symbols Cards
- Photo of Children's Commissioner for Wales
- Photos/ objects of reference

Classroom Charter Template

# **Introduction:**

Show the class a picture of Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner for Wales. Explain that it is her job to make sure that all children in Wales access their rights and can grow up happy, healthy and safe.

As a circle time activity, look at a selection of pictures from the "picture pack" with pupils and discuss what they may mean – pupils should be free to offer their own interpretations and relate their own experiences.

You can support the understanding for each illustration with appropriate sign language, object of reference or symbol card and prompt pupils with suitable questioning where needed.

## Main Activity: Class Charter

Explain to the class that all children in Wales have children's rights. Children's rights are a list of things you need to grow up happy, healthy and safe.

Share the rights poster or symbols cards with the class, you may wish to select the more relevant articles to suit the ability and needs of the class.

Explain the word "Charter" and explain that it is important that the pupils create their own Class Charter to think about the children's rights that are most important to them as a class.

Each pupil should choose a right they feel is important to them (less able pupils should be given a smaller selection to choose from).

Once each pupil has chosen a right, put the rights to a vote. Choose up to 6 rights that the children feel are the most important. Add those rights to the Class Charter.

All children should then sign the class charter with the class teacher. For those learners who are unable to write their name, they can make their mark by fingerprint.

You may wish to add Widgit/ PECS symbols to the class charter to help support pupils understanding.

### Plenary:

Recap what the children have learned in the lesson by looking at the objectives, highlighting the importance of children's rights and Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

### AFL:

Revert to the lesson objectives. Have the pupils worked towards or achieved the targets set out? Depending on ability, this may be an ongoing objective.

## **Differentiation:**

For learners of PMLD nature use objects of reference to symbolize each right and support understanding. Use switches to offer pupil voice and participation

For ASD learners – the use of Widgit symbols / PECS pictures.

Lessons and activities created by Jonathan Whitchurch of Heronsbridge School in collaboration with the Children's Commissioner for Wales. Tell the Children's Commissioner about your work on rights by tweeting @childcomwales or e-mail <a href="mailto:post@childcomwales.org.uk">post@childcomwales.org.uk</a>