

Student Ambassador workshop

Aims:

- To learn about children's rights
- To understand the role of the Commissioner
- To use the findings from our Coronavirus and Me survey as an opportunity to discuss feelings and create mechanisms for change/ support in their setting

Sally will be hosting a webinar in October. The aim is for this workshop to be delivered prior to the webinar, so that pupils can feedback their ideas to us then.

Learning outcomes	Activity	Time	Notes
Understand the role of the Commissioner	<p>Introduce the lesson by explaining that today you will be focusing on children's rights.</p> <p>Explain the role of Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner for Wales.</p> <p>Sally Holland is the Children's Commissioner for Wales. Her job is to stand up for and safeguard the rights of children and young people in Wales. Everyone under the age of 18 has 42 rights, which you can see using the poster.</p>	5 minutes	We will be sending out hard copies of our poster and symbols pack to all schools registered as Ambassador schools . The poster and symbols pack are also available to download for free on our website. The key findings are also attached as an appendix.

<p>Learn about the UNCRC</p>	<p>Give the young people the following instructions:</p> <p>"Write a list of all the things you need to grow up feeling happy, healthy and safe. Share your answers with the rest of your group.</p> <p>Use a copy of the 'Know Your Rights' poster to check that it is one of your children's rights."</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>	<p>You could work as a large group to create a list or ask for suggestions from young people after some individual work.</p> <p>There may be some things like 'mobile phone' that come up as something that young people think they need. Use the Know Your Rights poster to discuss if these items are a need or a want.</p> <p>If your young people are familiar with children's rights you may want to run the activity as a debate about wants and needs and why children's rights are important.</p>
<p>Young people will understand the information from the coronavirus and me survey.</p>	<p>Play this video and explain that it is an animation of findings from our Coronavirus and me survey.</p>	<p>5 minutes</p>	<p>This links to Article 12 — the right to be listened to and taken seriously, you may want to highlight that right at the front of the room using our symbols pack.</p> <p>The 'Coronavirus and Me' survey was a Mission for our Ambassador schools for Summer Term 2020.</p> <p>Over 23,000 children and young people completed the survey.</p> <p>For further information, you can read the summary report here.</p>

<p>Young people will have the opportunity to explore their thoughts and feelings.</p> <p>Young people will have the opportunity to be listened to.</p>	<p>Give each young person/ table a key finding. Ask young people to answer the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did this affect children's rights? • Do you think this is still true? • How have things changed? <p>Ask the class to feedback.</p>	<p>15 minutes</p>	<p>You might want to select the key findings you think are most relevant for your group.</p>
<p>Young people will consider what the priorities for their age group should be.</p> <p>Young people can plan some discussion points for the online webinar with Sally.</p>	<p>Facilitate a discussion with pupils about one good thing that came from 'lockdown' and two things that still need to change for young people.</p> <p>Thank young people for taking part and remind them about the webinar and the opportunity for them to share their opinions.</p>	<p>15 minutes</p>	<p>This could be done individually and then shared with the wider group.</p> <p>If you are unable to join our webinar in October, please still share your feedback and points via Twitter (@childcomwales) or email post@childcomwales.org.uk.</p>
<p>Re-cap learning during the session.</p>	<p>Close: Re-cap over the session with the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who is the Children's Commissioner for Wales? • Can someone name one of your rights? • What is the difference between a want and a need? • Why is important that young people are listened to? 	<p>5 minutes</p>	<p>Re-cap if time, if not use these questions for your next lesson focusing on children's rights.</p>

Key Findings:

1. Young people felt safe and happy most of the time.
2. More young people aged 12-18 reported negative feelings compared to younger children.
3. Young people had more time to relax and play.
4. Missing friends and family had the biggest impact on how young people felt, followed by school/college closing.
5. Some were enjoying learning at home, while others were missing the chance to work with their classmates and having help from their teacher.
6. Over half were worried about falling behind with their learning and how their grades would be affected.
7. Only 39% of young people would feel confident asking for help from a school counsellor.
8. Only 17% of young people said they were happy that exams had been cancelled.