

# CHILD SOCIAL WORK AGREEMENT

## Rights based agreement - an example session plan for child-social work agreement

This session plans provides an example of how an agreement between a child and their worker can be developed. This can be used between a child and member of staff, e.g. social worker or between an organisation and a group of children, e.g. an agreement between Corporate Parents within a Local Authority and care experienced children and young people.

Agreements such as this can be important in disseminating knowledge and mutual understanding of the rights and responsible actions of all parties. In doing so they can engage in affected parties in a partnership to achieving their mutual goals.

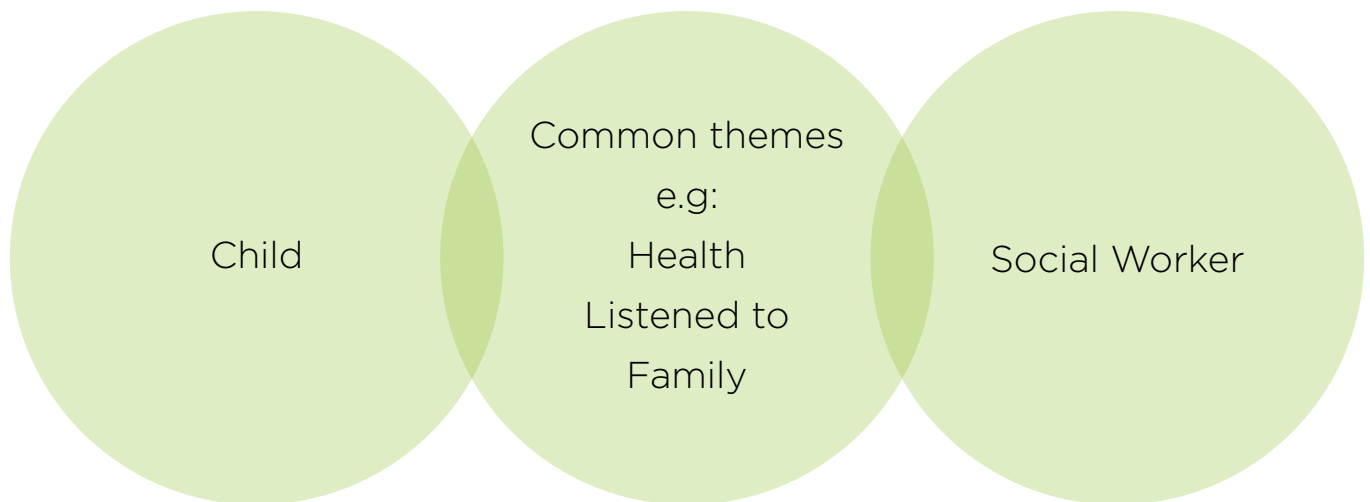
# WHAT IS IT YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE?

**Example:** Individual agreements - What are the meaningful ways in which we can work together to achieve your goals for reaching your potential and being the best that you can be?

Organisational agreements - “What are the meaningful ways in which the Corporate Parenting Board and care experienced children and young people can work together to achieve this help for our care experienced population?”

**Q. What are things that children and young people need to reach their full potential? What would help you grow up to be the best that you can be. (Article 29)**

Using a Venn diagram as a model for the discussion – e.g. a child and social worker take the opportunity to complete their own section separately. An Independent Reviewing Officer could help with this.



List the common themes in the centre.

It is important for each partner (child/professional) to complete this as the child may not see things that help them to reach their potential that the practitioner would, using their professional judgement. Also, a social worker may not see things from the child's perspective, allowing a child to be empowered to identify their own priority of needs.

This can be completed with children and/or young people, with an individual, siblings, a family or a population. Resources are available at [www.childcomwales.org.uk](http://www.childcomwales.org.uk) to help you think about how to tailor work to different age groups.

There can be as many themes as is appropriate or identified. It is important to link each to children's rights as this bases the foundation of this agreement on the needs the child has. A copy of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) can be found on page 4.

Once complete, you have the foundations of an agreement. It might be useful to set out your mutual goal at the top. Please see the template agreement below:

**Example:** We pledge to work together to respect children’s rights, ensuring care experienced children and young people living in (insert LA) have every opportunity to be safe, listened to, healthy and the best they can be.

Example agreement based on example Venn above:

Child / Young Person	Common Theme	Social Worker
<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Attend appointments</li> <li>■ Try my best to make healthy choices</li> <li>■ Speak up if I feel something is wrong</li> </ul>	<p><b>Health</b></p> <p>Article 24: Every child has the right to a clean environment, nutritious food, clean water and medical attention when required</p>	<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Make sure to let you know in good time of appointments we have made, and help you to understand why meetings and appointments are going ahead.</li> <li>■ Provide support to help you understand healthy eating/ healthy relationships, and support you to make choices that are good for you.</li> <li>■ Provide opportunities for you to have your voice heard and make it clear who you can talk to if you feel you are not being listened to.</li> </ul>
<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Attend my Reviews</li> <li>■ Ask for help if I feel I cannot speak up myself</li> </ul>	<p><b>Listened to</b></p> <p>Article 12: Every child has the right to be heard in decision that affect them</p>	<p>I will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide information that is understandable, in plenty of time for you to be involved</li> <li>■ Provide feedback about how we have/could make changes based on your views</li> <li>■ Make sure you know where to ask for help if you need to speak up</li> </ul>



Comisiynydd  
Plant Cymru  
Children's  
Commissioner  
for Wales

Listens. Supports. Helps.

Hello, my name is Sally  
Holland and I'm the  
Children's Commissioner  
for Wales.

It's my job to:

**Support** you to find out about your rights.

**Listen** to what's important to you.

**Advise** you, and those who care for you,  
if you think you've been treated unfairly.

**Influence** others to make sure all  
children get their rights.

**Speak up** for you on important issues.



#### Ambassadors

Sally has teams of Ambassadors in Wales. Ambassadors are children and young people in schools or community groups who inform Sally's work. To find out more and join the Ambassadors scheme, visit [www.childrenscommissioner.wales/our-schemes/](http://www.childrenscommissioner.wales/our-schemes/)

# KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

**The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, or the UNCRC, is a list of rights that all children and young people in Wales and across the world have.**

#### Article 1:

Everyone under 18 has these rights.

#### Article 2:

All children have these rights no matter what. All children should be treated equally.

#### Article 3:

Adults should always do what is best for you.

#### Article 4:

The Government should make sure that all children and young people get these rights.

#### Article 5:

The Government should respect the right of your family to help you know about your rights.

#### Article 6:

You have the right to life, to grow up and reach your full potential.

#### Article 7:

You have the right to a name and a nationality.

#### Article 8:

You have the right to an identity.

#### Article 9:

You have the right to live with your parents, if this is what's best for you.

#### Article 10:

You have the right to see your family even if they live in a different country.

#### Article 22:

If you are a refugee, you have the same rights as any other child in the country.

#### Article 23:

If you are disabled, you have the right to special care and support so that you can lead a full and independent life.

#### Article 24:

You have the right to clean water, healthy food, a clean environment and good healthcare.

#### Article 25:

If you're not living with your family, you have the right to a regular check on how you're being cared for.

#### Article 26:

You have the right to support from the Government if your family hasn't got enough money to live on.

#### Article 27:

You have the right to a proper house, food and clothing. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

#### Article 28:

You have the right to an education.

#### Article 29:

You have the right to be the best you can be. Education must help you develop your skills and talents to the full.

#### Article 30:

You have the right to speak your own language and follow your family's way of life.

#### Article 31:

You have the right to relax and play.

#### Article 32:

You have the right to be protected from doing dangerous work.

#### Article 33:

You have the right to be protected from dangerous drugs.

#### Article 34:

Nobody should touch you in ways that make you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or sad.

#### Article 35:

You have the right to not be abducted, sold or trafficked.

#### Article 36:

You have the right to be kept safe from things that could harm your development.

#### Article 37:

You have the right not to be punished in a cruel or hurtful way.

#### Article 38:

You have the right to be protected during a war and not to fight in the army if you're under 15.

#### Article 39:

You have the right to special help if you've been hurt or badly treated.

#### Article 40:

You have the right to legal help and to be treated fairly if you've been accused of breaking the law.

#### Article 41:

If the laws in your country protect you better than the rights in this list, those laws should stay in place.

#### Article 42:

The Government must let children and families know about children's rights.

#### Articles 43-54:

These articles are about how adults and the Government must work together to make sure all children get their rights.

#### Get in touch

**Do you need to talk to us about a problem?** Our Investigations and Advice service is free and confidential. It's there to help and support children and their families.

Get in touch to find out how we can help:

Phone: **0808 801 1000** Email: [advice@childrenscommissioner.wales](mailto:advice@childrenscommissioner.wales)

Website: [www.childrenscommissioner.wales](http://www.childrenscommissioner.wales)

Email: [post@childrenscommissioner.wales](mailto:post@childrenscommissioner.wales)

@childcomwales