

Case study – Embedding - The Right Way – The Adoption of a Children’s Rights Approach by Wrexham Council

Following work with Wrexham Public Service Board, Wrexham council agreed to pilot TRW. This work was supported by the Children’s Commissioner’s Office and a pilot developed in 4 WCBC departments; Children’s Social Care, Adults Social Care, Housing and Economy and Education.

Wrexham’s project team and staff worked hard to complete the self-assessment with most of the team managers in Children’s Social Care and in Adult Social Care, as well as with the Departmental Management Team amongst other services; workshops were held with senior management and an intention to embed Children’s Rights in strategic plans and the development and trial of a new Children’s Rights Impact Assessment Tool were made. The pilot has raised awareness of Children’s Rights and the need to adopt and implement the Right Way and there is a real willingness to engage with this agenda in Wrexham, with high-level support.

A number of external challenges including internal inspections, changes in leadership and the global pandemic affected the pilot’s aims. Despite this the PSB has prioritised a sustained focus on children and young people, inequality and the environment as being critical to Wrexham’s recovery post Covid, so there is an opportunity and a commitment on partners to really do things differently.

Release from Covid 10 lockdown may bring unknown opportunities for a focus on Children’s Rights in Wrexham Council and an increasing focus on continuous learning could lead to the development of a UNCRC action learning set to develop easy, quick actions to make small steps in the right direction on a regular basis.

By involving senior leaders and winning the hearts and minds of senior leaders allows a commitment to Embed a Children’s Rights approach