

‘Take it Seriously’: Children’s experiences of Racism within Secondary Schools



Comisiynydd Plant Cymru
Children's Commissioner for **Wales**

Children's Commissioner for Wales.



The Children's Commissioner for Wales is called Rocio Cifuentes.

Her job is to make sure that all children and young people in Wales get their children's rights.


Children's rights are the things you need to grow up feeling happy, healthy and safe.

Children's rights include a right to education, and a right to be safe.

All children and young people have these rights.

But Rocio and her team were worried that some children and young people in Wales were experiencing racism in school.

Racism is treating someone differently because of their skin colour, religion, nationality or culture.



They wanted to find out more about young people's experiences.

170 Rocio and her team spoke to around 170 young people across Wales, and teachers and other adults.

What we found out

Lots of young people say they experience racism when they're in school. Lots of young people felt that when this happened, they were **not taken seriously** by adults.



Young people want:

People working in schools to take racism more seriously

People working in schools to do more if they see or hear about young people experiencing racism

to know exactly what to do when they need to report racism, and to know what the school will do if they report it

Teachers

Teachers told us that they didn't have much training on racism and that they can find racist incidents hard to deal with.

Some teachers wanted more training and support to help them deal with racism in schools.

What we want to happen

We've asked the Welsh Government to make sure that schools deal with racism better, give people who work in schools more help, and make sure all teachers have training

We've asked the Welsh Government to collect information about how many young people are experiencing racism in school across Wales

We've asked schools to make sure that all young people know exactly how reporting racism in their school works and what will happen next