



Housing & homelessness spotlight report



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 rights. **Children's rights** are the things you need to grow up feeling happy, healthy, and safe. All children and young people have these rights.

Children's rights include

Article 12: The right to be listened to, and taken seriously

Article 19: The right to be kept safe

Article 27: The right to have a proper home, food and appropriate clothing

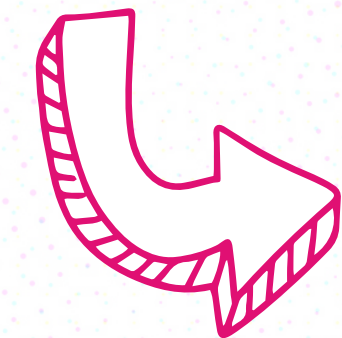


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What does this mean?

This means that your home should be safe and help you stay healthy, but we know that sometimes children's homes can be unsafe or not suitable for them and their families. This can affect children's health, happiness and safety - and that means their rights are not being met

We wanted to find out more about children and young people's experiences.





**We spoke to 15 children and young people across Wales.
Some lived in houses, flats, B+B's, caravans, and some had
lived in lots of different places over the past few months.**



What children told us..



- Some of the issues they shared with us included broken roofs, broken toilets, problems with the electricity, mould and damp, and not feeling safe.



- Issues with housing can have an impact on children's physical health. We heard of breathing issues because of mould, and children not being able to eat healthy food because they didn't have anything to cook with.



- Some children told us about being stressed, worried, and anxious about their housing.



- Homes can sometimes feel cramped if big families are sharing small spaces. This can affect how well they sleep, how much privacy they have, and how much room they have to relax and play.
- Some told us how their homes can affect their education. We heard how some don't have space to do schoolwork, and one child told us they couldn't use the desk in their bedroom because of mould on the walls. And sometimes children can be moved to a house that is far away from their school, which can make their journey to school long and tiring.
- Family, safety, comfort, cosines, and their bed are all things that make a good home.

What do we want?



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

We want every child and young person in Wales to have a suitable home that helps them to grow up happy, healthy, and safe.



We want Welsh Government to make sure children's views and experiences are listened to when it comes to housing.



What will we be doing?



We have written a full report to the Welsh Government with changes we want to see to housing in Wales.



We will keep sharing your experiences with the Welsh Government and other decision makers – we want what you've told us to lead to positive changes.

