

Dear Parents and Carers

We are very pleased to tell you that we are continuing our journey to complete the Bronze level of UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) called the Recognition of Commitment. We are always striving to create the best possible environment for our children (Article 3) and this achievement shows that we are committed to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school (Article 1 &3).

"Rights" are what every child should have or be able to do (Article 1). All children have the same rights. These rights are listed in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Almost every country has agreed to these rights. All the rights are connected to each other, and all are equally important. Sometimes, we have to think about rights in terms of what is the best for children in a situation, and what is critical to life and protection from harm. As you grow, you have more responsibility to make choices and exercise your rights. We all have rights but we also have to respect these rights.

The school council are working with Miss Prior and Miss Reilly to develop our class charters. As the children progress through school the way they respect their rights will develop. Of the 54 Rights of a Child these are the ones that we will be focusing on:

Article 31 All children and young people have a right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of activities.

Article 24 Children have the right to the best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment, and information to help them stay alive.

Article 2 Every child has the same rights regardless of their race, colour, sex, language, religion, politics, nationality, social class, place of birth or disability.

Article 28 All children and young people have a right to free primary education. Children should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level they can.

Article 12 All children and young people have the right to give their opinion and for adults to listen and take them seriously.

Articles 29 Education should teach children and young people to protect the environment.

Meet our friends:

This is Rights Rhino - he will remind us of our rights as children



This is Respect Rex - she will remind us of how we respect these rights



UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights and we will be joining a community of over 4,000 schools in the UK working on the Rights Respecting Schools Award. Right

Respecting Schools across the country have reported that that the Award has many positive impacts including improved relationships, well-being and self-esteem, leading to better attendance and improved learning.

You can find out more about the UNICEF, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Rights Respecting Schools Award from the RRSA website [www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa](http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa). UNICEF also have a page with a child's right written in child friendly language

<https://www.unicef.org/rightsite/files/uncrcchildfriendlylanguage.pdf>.

Thank you for your support as we develop this at Shirley Infant School.

Many thanks

Cate Gregory and Aimee Reilly

Head of school      PSHE lead teacher