



## Children's Rights Alliance for England

**Get ready for change!** engages children and young people in the international reporting process for the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and supports them to carry out their own human rights advocacy and campaigning.

### Investigating the state of children's rights

Children and young people carried out a nationwide children's rights investigation with over 1,700 of their peers to discover how well children and young people's human rights were respected, protected and realised in England. They presented this evidence to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in June 2008.

### Campaigning for change in children's rights

Get ready for change! campaigners are now using this evidence to take action on human rights issues that matter to children and young people in England. This includes planning and running three national campaigns to achieve change in children's rights:

The **Report Right!** campaign aims to combat the negative portrayal of children and young people in the media, an issue recently highlighted by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. Children and young people are developing a media charter to encourage responsible and balanced reporting about children and young people, and will be campaigning for reporting restrictions to be reintroduced to prevent children from being "named and shamed" in local and national newspapers.

Through our **counselling and confidentiality** campaign, children and young people will campaign for more schools to have counsellors, and for such services to be based in places easily accessible for children. They will be developing guidelines on confidentiality to ensure both counsellors and children and young people understand what confidentiality means and when it might be broken.

Children and young people will also be campaigning to **promote the right to education for young refugees and asylum seekers**. They will be carrying out research with young refugees and asylum seekers to identify and address the barriers preventing them from fully realising their right to an education.

### Taking local action

Get ready for change! has a network of over 200 children's rights champions across England, who are tasked with spreading the word about children's rights and encouraging local decision-makers to make public pledges on our website to improve the lives of children and young people.

Get ready for change! is led by children and young people, and funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

<http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk>

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