



Top Tips For Defending Rights in Schools

1 PUT THE CHARTER ON THE WALL – AND IN YOUR OWN WORDS

- Display a child-friendly Forces Children's Rights Charter (FCRC) poster alongside your Rights Respecting School (RRS) / UNCRC poster.
- Run a short assembly where pupils explain each Charter right in their own words.
- FCRC: makes the needs and voices of forces children visible
- RRS: supports Strand A – Learning about rights

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2 MAKE RIGHTS PART OF DAILY SCHOOL LIFE

- Pick one Charter principle each month and link it to a UNCRC article.
- Highlight it in Health and Wellbeing lessons, share during whole school assemblies, promote on social media pages; agree one small action with pupils.
- FCRC: keeps forces children's lived experience in view
- RRS: supports Strand A & B – Ethos and relationships

3 USE RIGHTS TO GUIDE DECISIONS

- Set up a simple "Does it fit our rights?" traffic-light check when policies or changes are discussed.
- Pupils can help review things like induction or uniform policies.
- FCRC: checks that changes don't disadvantage forces children.
- RRS: supports Article 12 – Right to be heard

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4 STRENGTHEN PUPIL VOICE AND PARTICIPATION

- Create a Forces Children's Rights focus group or give the pupil council a standing item on the Charter.
- Involve them in planning welcome packs or reviewing wellbeing support.
- FCRC: puts lived experience at the heart of decisions
- RRS: supports Article 12 – Participation

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CONNECT LEARNING TO REAL LIFE

- Gather and share stories, photos or short films that show how the school supports Charter rights.
- Use them in displays, assemblies or to brief local MSP's and parent and pupil councils..
- FCRC: makes rights tangible and practical
- RRS: builds a rights-based approach across the curriculum



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CHECK INCLUSION AND BELONGING

- Work with pupils to review how well the school supports those who move frequently or have a parent deployed.
- Agree one or two simple improvements each year.
- FCRC: tackles barriers to belonging
- RRS: supports Article 2 – Non-discrimination

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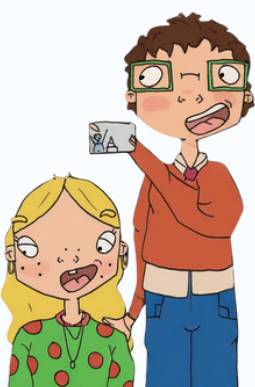
CELEBRATE PROGRESS AND EFFORT

- Hold an annual “Rights in Action” week, co-led by pupils.
- Celebrate classes or individuals who’ve championed a Charter right.
- FCRC: shows real steps towards the Charter’s goals
- RRS: strengthens a whole-school rights-respecting ethos

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USE RIGHTS IN EVALUATION AND PLANNING

- When reviewing wellbeing or inclusion, ask: “Which Charter provisions improved this year for forces children?” “Which UNCRC articles have we strengthened?”
- FCRC: provides a benchmark for assessing change
- RRS: links to Strand C – Participation and continuous improvement



SCAN FOR THE RIGHTS CHARTER

