



## **Rights Respecting Schools Policy**

Knockbreda Nursery School is a rights respecting school.

Knockbreda Nursery School aims to demonstrate through its work that it positively values and respects all children and their rights. By actively teaching about rights and incorporating rights into the delivery of an enhanced curriculum, staff endeavour to promote a Rights Respecting School ethos.

Knockbreda Nursery School is committed to helping to develop pupils as responsible citizens who want, and are able, to make positive contributions to enhance the ethos of the school community.

This is achieved by encouraging our pupils to:

- know and understand what rights are
- respect the rights of other people
- understand how their behaviour can impact on the rights of others
- develop their self-esteem and self-worth
- be aware of their personal safety and the safety of others

We promote and strengthen this ethos by:

- creating a learning environment conducive to the fostering of successful learning and firm respect for rights
- ensuring all pupils, staff and parents are aware of our “Rights Respecting Policy” and understand how it operates
- putting this policy into practical operation
- positively promoting rights and respect for the rights of others and integrating this into the curriculum based learning

### **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)**

The Convention sets out the rights of children in 54 Articles. These basic, fundamental rights encompass survival, protection, development and participation.

- Rights are universal and cannot be taken away.
- The main responsibility for ensuring that all children enjoy their rights lies with the adults.
- All rights are equally important.



The UNCRC is underpinned by 4 principles:

1. Non-discrimination
2. Commitment to the best interest of the child
3. The right to life, survival and development
4. Respect for the views of the child

At Knockbreda Nursery School, the teaching staff have developed the pre-school curriculum content to incorporate the UNCRC and actively teach the children about their rights through Circle Time sessions, with links to play provision as appropriate.

- Displays are explicitly linked to the UNCRC, in a way the children will understand
- All members of the school community are encouraged to be ambassadors for children's rights.
- Parents and Governors are included in our work as a Rights Respecting School through regular Steering Group meetings.

The School has a Rights Respecting Ethos:

- All members of the school community are encouraged to be role models and demonstrate rights respecting values.
- The school environment is safe and appropriate for children, physically and emotionally.
- Conflicts are resolved using constructive and restorative approaches where children are encouraged and empowered to seek solutions to problems and issues.

Children are empowered to become active citizens and learners:

- Pupils' opinions and thoughts are sought, encouraged and respected through the school's work on the eco schools' and rights respecting schools' agenda.

### **The role of staff**

It is the role of the staff at Knockbreda Nursery School to act as the Duty Bearers and to ensure the promotion of respect for children's rights and indeed to protect and guarantee children's rights.

### **Monitoring and evaluation**

This policy will be reviewed and monitored in line with the school's policy review schedule.