

Rights Respecting at Severnbanks Primary School



Class Charters

At the beginning of each new academic year, classes discuss which of the UN Convention children's rights are important to them in school.

We then discuss and write down the responsibilities of both adults and children in school to ensure these rights are met. This charter is then displayed in the classroom and referred to throughout the year. Giving ownership to the children in terms of which rights they feel are most important and the subsequent actions they must take to support them, allows pupils to appreciate and understand their role within a Rights Respecting school.



Links with Global Citizenship

The Global Citizenship themes of 'Human Rights' and Social Justice and Equity compliment everything we hope to achieve in a Rights Respecting School at Lawn. It provides opportunities for pupils to learn, in depth, about not just their rights as children but the rights of all human beings around the world. This prompts ethical discussions about social justice and equity and nurtures children's critical thinking skills by being encouraged to consider the 'big questions' regarding human rights.



School Council

At the start of the school year, two School Council representatives are selected by class members. This happens in the form of a class election whereby any child who wishes to become a representative has the opportunity to make a speech to the rest of the class with the aim of being chosen to represent their class.

Once elected, Council Reps attend meetings to discuss current issues in school. They then feedback to their class any ideas or questions which arose as well as gather class views about different aspects of school life and take these back to subsequent School Council meetings to be discussed. It allows pupils to voice their opinions and contribute to bringing about the changes they wish to see in and around school- a key aspect of being a Rights Respecting School.

What does being a Rights Respecting School look like at Severnbanks ?

At Severnbanks, we learn about human rights and the importance of having these rights protected. We explore the meaning of many of these rights using age-appropriate vocabulary across the curriculum where relevant. This allows children's confidence when discussing their specific rights as a child to develop throughout their time at Severnbanks.

In each classroom you will find a copy of the Rights of the Child poster. This provides pupils

Alongside learning about rights, we encourage children to take actions to contribute towards their own rights as well as the rights of their peers. In School Parliament classroom meetings for example, parliament representatives give the class a space for their thoughts to be shared freely (Article 13).

