

# WE have the right to be protected, listened to and respected



## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

### The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

- 1 Everyone under the age of 18 has ALL of these rights. You have the right to...
- 2 Be treated fairly no matter who you are, where you are from, what language you speak, what you believe or where you live.
- 3 Have adults always do what is best for you.
- 4 Have all of these rights protected by your government.
- 5 Be given support and advice from your parents and family.
- 6 Life.
- 7 Have a name and a nationality.
- 8 An official identity.

- 9 Not be separated from your parent/s, unless it is for your own good.
- 10 Be reunited with your parent/s if they have to move to another country.
- 11 Not be taken out of your country illegally.
- 12 Have your own opinion, which is listened to and taken seriously.
- 13 Find out information and express what you think through speaking, writing and art, unless this denies other people their rights.
- 14 Think and believe whatever you want to and practice any religion, with guidance from your parent/s.
- 15 Be with friends and join or set up clubs, unless this denies other people their rights.
- 16 Have your privacy and family respected.

- 17 Get reliable information from newspapers, books, radio, television and the Internet, as long as it is not harmful to you.
- 18 Be brought up by your parents, if possible.
- 19 Be protected from being hurt or badly treated in any way.
- 20 Special protection and help if you can't live with your parents.
- 21 The best care possible if you are adopted or in foster care.
- 22 Special protection and help if you are a refugee.
- 23 Access to education and any support you may need if you have a disability.
- 24 The best health and medical care possible, and information to help you stay healthy.

- 25 Have your living situation checked regularly if you are looked after away from your family.
- 26 Help from the government if you are poor or in need.
- 27 A basic standard of living: food, clothing and a safe place to live.
- 28 An education.
- 29 An education that develops your personality and abilities, and encourages you to respect other people, cultures and the environment.
- 30 Enjoy your own culture, religion and language, even if these are not the same as most people in your country.
- 31 Rest, play and relax.
- 32 Be protected from work that harms your health or education.
- 33 Be protected from dangerous drugs and their trade.

- 34 Be protected from sexual abuse.
- 35 Not be kidnapped or sold.
- 36 Be protected from being taken advantage of or exploited in any way.
- 37 Not to be punished in a cruel or hurtful way.
- 38 Protection and care in times of war. If you are under 15 you should never be forced to join an army.
- 39 Special help if you have been hurt, neglected or badly treated.
- 40 Be helped and treated fairly if you are accused of breaking the law.
- 41 Be protected by national or international laws which provide better rights than the ones in this list.
- 42 ALL children and adults should know and learn about these rights.

This is a simplified version of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention has been signed by 191 countries.

The Convention has 54 articles in total. Articles 43-54 are about how governments and international organisations should make sure children have access to their rights.

For more information please contact:  
Save the Children, 1 St John's Lane,  
London EC1M 4AR  
[savethechildren.org.uk](http://savethechildren.org.uk)

Did you know? Save the Children's founder, Eglantyne Jebb, inspired the United Nations to create the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

**We Save the Children**  **Will you?**