The Rights and Responsibilities of Children



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Every child in the world has human rights

Human rights are the basic things that all people need to be treated fairly and have a good life. For children, all these rights are listed in something called the Convention on the Rights of the Child. These are special rights for all people under the age of 18 and include things which children need to help them be safe, happy and healthy.



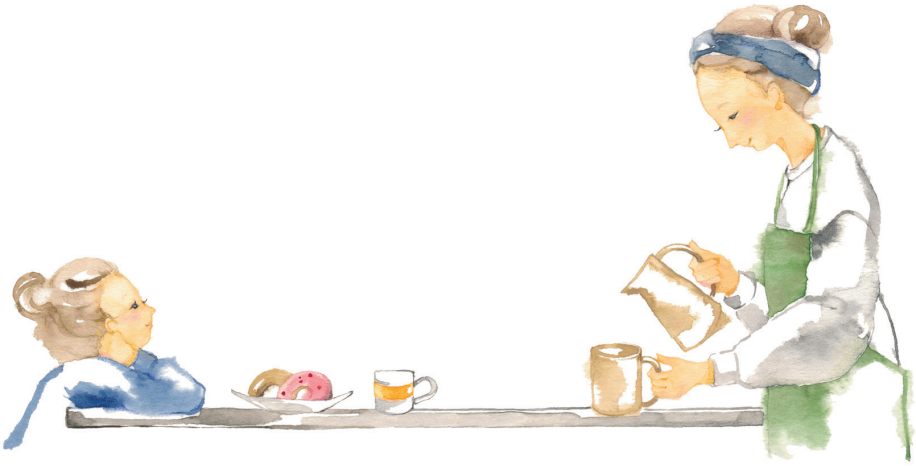
Every child is equal

This means that every child should be treated fairly. It does not matter if you are a girl or boy, what colour your skin is, if you have a disability, what your religious beliefs are or the kind of family you have, all children are equal. If children are treated unfairly because of these differences it is discrimination.



Adults should do what's best for you

When adults are making decisions about your life, they need to remember that there is only one child in the world like you! The first question they should ask is 'what is best for this child?'. Your needs should come first when they are deciding things that are important to you. This is called the best interests of the child.



Growing up healthy, safe and strong

You have the right to grow up safe, healthy and strong. You have the right to enough healthy food to eat, somewhere to live and someone who cares for you. You have the right to be able to go to school, learn, be included and have the chance to do your best.



Be heard!

You have the right to say what you think should happen to you in your family, school and community. Adults should listen to what children say and give it serious attention.



Rights are for all children

You can stand up for your rights and the rights of others. When you are thinking about your own rights, you also need to think about what is best for the other people around you – including other children.



Who decides?

Your parents, carers, teachers and all the other grown ups make a lot of decisions about your life. So they have responsibility to help you have your rights respected and protected.



Respect and protect

Every child, no matter where they live in the world should be able to have their rights respected and protected so they can be safe, happy and healthy.



Feel safe

You have the right to be safe in your home, school and community. No one should hurt you.

You can always tell an adult that you trust if anyone makes you or other children feel unsafe. You can help by not hurting other children and helping them to feel safe and included whenever they are with you.



Be kind to
everyone

We're all a bit different

No matter who you are living with as you grow up, you should be able to live with people that can share or teach you about your family's faith or culture.

All children have the right to be treated kindly at school, including children that might be different in how they look, talk or act.

We all have a responsibility to treat others fairly and kindly. This respects their rights and encourages others to respect your rights in the same way.



Be healthy

You have the right to see a health professional or go to hospital when you are sick. Doctors and nurses should listen to when you are sick and how you can feel better.

Being sick isn't just about a pain in the stomach or a headache. It can also be about your mental health. In other words it can mean finding it hard to concentrate or feeling sad for a long time.

If you have a disability you have the right to seek the help you need to be healthy, happy and included in your community.

Your parents/carers should help you to take care of yourself, where to get help and the best ways you can keep well and healthy.


Our
business
is nobody's
business

Information about you is private

You and your family have the right to privacy and that your personal information is kept private and no one can share this information unless you want them to.





Friendships

You have the right to meet with your friends in safe and friendly community spaces. Of course this also means that you and your friends respect other people that share the same space.


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