

**Get
Ready
for
Change!**

Get ready for change! project update April 2009

Steering group meeting

On Saturday 4 April, the steering group met in London. It was a great day and we got lots of work done. We talked about how the steering group will monitor the three Get ready campaigns and make sure they are all as successful as possible. The group also shared ideas for celebrating the 20th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Members of the steering group also had the chance to talk to the Big Lottery Fund about why they got involved in Get ready and their decision-making role on the project. We also celebrated Get ready for change's second birthday!



Celebrating Get ready's second birthday and working hard at the steering group meeting!

Ideas month

This year, the steering group has a budget of **£10,000** to spend on Get ready for change!

The steering group has decided to use half of the money to pay for travel so that more of our young campaigners can come to meetings. But that still leaves **£5,000** to decide what to do with!

And that's where you come in. The steering group would like your ideas on what the money should be spent on. The only rules are that the money should support the project's campaigning activities or be used to promote children's rights.

So tell us what you think. Send your ideas to info@getreadyforgeneva.org.uk by **Sunday 31 May**. (Don't worry, if you're a member of the steering group, you can still send in your ideas!)

Campaign update



Report Right

This summer will be packed full of research for the Report Right campaign team. They decided that the main focus of the campaign would be 'naming and shaming'. CRAE staff are making contact with children who have been 'named and shamed' to see if they would like to be interviewed about their experiences. Young researchers will be trained in the next few months to carry out these interviews. Over the past few months, the campaigners have been finalising the logo, deciding which campaign materials to develop and spreading the word about the campaign (they even have a twitter page: <http://twitter.com/reportright>).

Visit the campaign page here: <http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaigns/age-discrimination>



Counselling and confidentiality

Great news! The logo for the campaign has now been finalised thanks to Sana and Anastasia and all the other designers. The campaigners have been busy testing out the survey which will go online in May. The survey will try to find out if children know what confidentiality means, what they think of the counselling service offered in their school, and how this service could be improved.

Visit the campaign page here: <http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaigns/counselling-and-confidentiality>

Education: every child's right!

The campaign team is planning ahead for the summer. They have been writing an information sheet to help spread the word about the campaign and thinking about questions to ask in focus group interviews. Three members of the team are preparing to be trained up as young researchers in July. The designers have also been busy over the last two months finalising the logo – which should be on the website very soon!

Visit the campaign page here: <http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaigns/right-to-education>

New! Campaign tool on the Get ready site

We have an exciting new programme for Get ready campaigners on the website. The campaign tool gives you the chance to work your way through different children's rights issues, rate how you feel about them and get some practical ideas for taking action. Check it out! http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaign_tool/index.html

CRAE young people speak at social networking conference by Lauren

Last month, four young people (Faiza, Daniel-Sean, Charlotte and Lauren) represented CRAE in an event about adult and child relationships. As part of a CRAE panel they answered questions from the audience on issues such as young people's use of the internet and their contact with adults online, young people's contact with the police and how this can contribute to negative images of young people in the media. Overall, the event seemed a great success and everyone was able to put their opinions and experiences across. Adults also gave their views on a variety of different issues. This was really interesting and it great to be able to openly discuss common issues between the generations.

Did you know?

Did you know that Faiza won a national competition to design the front cover of Tanya Byron's report on how to keep children safe online? Professor Byron is taking this report to America in April to talk to the US president about how children can be kept safe on the internet. Well done Faiza!

Did you know?

Did you know that Laura (one of our children's rights champions) met Ed Balls, the Children's Minister and Ester Rantzen at an event in March. She told them about CRAE's counselling and confidentiality campaign and asked them if they could support this campaign.

Did you know?

Did you know that Jessica and Sana are going to speak to a reporter about the counselling and confidentiality campaign? They will be helping to write an article on their work for the Rochdale Observer.

Outreach

We have been spreading the word about children's rights at events throughout March and April. Krishna held a stall at the Toynbee Hall creative consultations event and encouraged lots of children and young people to sign up as champions. We even got our youngest campaigner involved: a five-year-old from East London!

Krishna also worked with 12 children and young people at the Young NCB Big 10 event in London. The two issues young people felt most passionately about were:

- Knowing your rights
- Children being protected and safe in their local areas.

Young NCB will focus on these two children's rights issues for the next 18 months. Special thanks go to champions Alex (London) and Faiza (Nottingham) for helping out and being children's rights experts!

Informed and Influential

We delivered a great Informed and Influential training day in London on 14 March. Around 20 children and young people from all over England attended, and most of them signed up as champions!

The top issues that came out of the day were:

- Education Maintenance Allowance – for everyone
- Young carers – do you know much about them?
- Children and the media
- Children in care and the police.

Representatives from SenseMedia and The Children's Society spoke to the young people about their campaigns and how they could take action. If you would like to come to the next training day, please e-mail Sabeena: skistnah@crae.org.uk



Understanding children's rights and presenting our children's rights campaign issues at Informed and Influential

Dates for your diary

- **27 May** – Informed and Influential, London
- **4 July** – Peer researcher training day, London
- **June** – young adviser recruitment, watch out for the advert on the Get ready website!
- **18-19 July** – Steering group residential, Leicester