



# Get ready for change!

## Project update August 2009

### Ciara waves goodbye to Get ready!

I have now left CRAE to take up a new job as a senior researcher with NCB (National Children's Bureau). I have loved every moment working on this project and wanted to wish you all every success for the future.



It has been fantastic to work with so many enthusiastic and committed children's rights activists. NCB is based in Angel so I'll just be down the road and I'm sure I'll see many of you again at the CRAE conference so I won't see goodbye – I'll just say "see you all very soon!"

### Steering group update

We had a very productive steering group meeting in July 2009. The group made decisions about what will happen in the final six months of the project, and talked about the excellent progress we have made so far. They received an update on all three Get ready campaigns and also discussed how CRAE and young people could celebrate 20 years of children's rights. We also made short films about how well the Government is doing on the concluding observations – these should be on the website in the next few months!

### Campaigns day round up

We had a very exciting campaigns day on 26 August, with nearly 20 young people from all three campaigns working on their campaigns and planning the next 6 months.

### Report Right

It's been very busy in the world of Report Right! On the campaign day we started work on our media charter. This will be a one page guide for journalists on how to write about children and young people while respecting their human rights. We are also planning on testing this guide on journalists, to make sure it is practical and actually works! We also practised interviewing children who have been named and shamed. Susanna Giner from the Institute for Global Ethics came to talk to us about their work on the media and young people.



### Sharing Secrets Safely

We had a very busy day at the campaign day. We started analysing the results of our online survey, which was filled in by



almost 250 children and young people. The survey results are really interesting and we can't wait to tell everyone about them! Karen Cromarty from the British Association of Counsellors and Psychotherapists joined our campaign team. She stayed with us all day, helped us look at the survey results and talked to us about her work.

### Education: every child's right

In July and August, we spoke to over 50 refugee and asylum seeking children from all over the country about their experiences of education. At the campaign day, we started analysing the results of our research and agreed on all the activities we need to do over the next few months. Our special guest was Lisa Doyle from the Refugee Council. She came to talk to us about some of her work on secondary schools and how they work with refugee and asylum seeking children. It was really interesting and we found lots of similarities with our research.



Check out the Get ready website for more information on all three campaigns: <http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaigns>

### Have you got a children's rights pledge?

An important part of the project is about getting decision-makers to make a children's rights pledge to improve the lives of children and young people. A decision-maker is someone who makes choices that affect the lives of children and young people. This could be an MP, a councillor, a faith leader, a headteacher, or perhaps the editor of a newspaper.

To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UNCRC, we'd like all of you to **ask a decision-maker to make a children's rights pledge**. This is a promise to do something specific to help children and young people. You'll find advice on how to do this at [http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/champions/childrens\\_rights\\_pledges](http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/champions/childrens_rights_pledges)

Your decision-maker can make their pledge online at [http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/champions/pledge\\_entry](http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/champions/pledge_entry)

If you need some help with deciding which decision-maker to talk to, and what to ask them to do, call Krishna on 020 7278 8222 extension 26 or e-mail her at [kmaroo@crae.org.uk](mailto:kmaroo@crae.org.uk).

## Outreach

Krishna has been travelling all over England delivering training and outreach sessions. In July she delivered training for the Young Advisers in Sefton, Liverpool. The group discussed issues around children's rights, and how their training could help them in their roles as young advisers.

They are going to build a campaign around curfews for young people – keep up the great work guys!



Young advisers from Sefton participating in children's rights training

Krishna also delivered training for the British Youth Council in London and Leeds to over 30 young people. In each city, she jam-packed campaigning and children's rights and talked about the Get ready for change! project.

If you would like Krishna to deliver children's rights training at your school, please e-mail her:

[kmaroo@crae.org.uk](mailto:kmaroo@crae.org.uk)

## Informed and Influential - free children's rights training day in the East of England

Our next Informed & Influential training day is in Cambridge. If you live in the East of England and would like come along, please complete the booking form here: <http://tiny.cc/2aYbJ>

## Get ready for change! advisers

Three young people worked as Get ready for change! advisers this summer. Jack, Sarah and Jess did a brilliant job. Here's what Jack had to say about his time in the CRAE office:

*Hi my name's Jack and I have been working as a young adviser to CRAE this summer. During my time at CRAE I have worked on a variety of tasks alongside the staff at CRAE. I have worked on tasks relating to a variety of campaigns and I have really enjoyed the tasks and I feel I have gained a lot of new skills from them, including how to dial an outside line without annoying the office manager!*

Keep an eye on the Get ready website for more information about what the advisers got up to this summer.

## And leaving the project this month...

It is with a huge 'Thank you!' that we say goodbye to 22 fabulous young people who have contributed to the project:

Alex White, Andy Gallant, Caitlin Stubbs, Callum Walker, Chris Lysaght, Edward Gannon, Gillian Crouch, Imogen Walsh, James Hughes, Jennifer Sernat, Jessica Clegg, Kauser Bibi, Kirrun Shafaat, Laura Partoon, Lauren Harrison, Leon Ward, Paul Toomey, Rebecca Musgrove, Ryan Thompson, Sohaib Shabir, Tama White, William Lee

The CRAE team would like to thank them for all their hard work and how much they've done to try to make change in children's rights. Good luck with everything you do in the future!

**There are lots of great events coming up!  
Read on for more information...**

## Talking to the Government about the concluding observations

On **10 September**, Get ready campaigners are running an event for children and young people to talk to decision-makers from the Government about the concluding observations. It's a great opportunity to make sure the Government is dealing with the issues that children told the UN about. A report about the event will be on our website news page later in September.

## CRAE's annual conference – 20 November

This year we're celebrating 20 years of children's rights with an exciting conference including a panel of young people talking about participation, the Children's Commissioner Sir Al, and a question-time panel including Mike (our national co-ordinator) and the Children's Rights Director Roger. If you're interested in coming along on, you can download the booking form from: <http://www.crae.org.uk/news-and-events/crae-events.html>. Places are free for children and young people.

## Get ready event in Parliament – a date for your diary!

To celebrate the end of the project, we're running an event in Parliament on **2 February 2010 at 4pm**. We'll want as many of you as possible to come along (and bring your MPs) so that we can make sure Parliamentarians really hear what children and young people have to say about children's rights. More details coming soon!