

Get ready for change! Project update June 2009

It has been another busy two months for Get ready for change! All of the campaigns have been making good progress and champions have been busy taking local action and spreading the word about children's rights. We are now getting ready for a packed summer with a steering group residential, work on the three campaigns and working with our two Get ready for change! advisers. Read on to find out more...

£5,000 to spend

This year the steering group has £5,000 to support our three campaigns. They will be meeting at the end of July in Leicester to make the final decision about what to spend this money on.



E-mail your ideas to info@getreadyforgeneva.org.uk.



Report right

Sam and Krishna have been doing some research into the laws about ASBOs and naming and shaming. They met with lawyers to talk about the law in this area and how we can take action.



The team has also identified 25 individual children (aged between 8 and 17) who have been named and shamed in local and national papers. We will be trying to get in contact with them this summer.

Chair Daniel-Sean has been spreading the word in Windsor (see Every Headline Matters below), and vice chair George has been keeping the campaign in check in-between his A-levels. We hope to get cracking with some research and campaigns materials, and are looking forward to the campaigns day already!

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

Sharing secrets safely

Our counselling campaign is going really well and there is a lot to report.



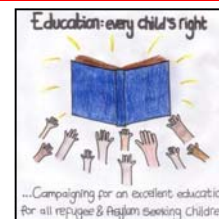
We've launched our survey to find out what children think about the counselling services in their schools, and 213 people have filled it in so far. Have you? **Tell us what you think about counselling and confidentiality in your school at:** <http://digbig.com/4yyynb>

Sam met with experts on counselling this month to talk about the campaign. They were very interested in our work and have invited us to present the findings from our survey to them later in the year. Newsround is also interested in interviewing our campaigners about counselling in schools.

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

Education: every child's right

The campaign is going really well. The campaign team has a great logo and flyer to recruit new young campaigners to the group.



We have been very busy getting ready for our research. 3 members of the campaign team will be coming to our researcher training day to learn how to carry out focus groups. Sabeena has been organising focus groups for July and August so that we can speak to children directly about their experiences of education.

Carla went to a training day at the Refugee Council on how schools work with refugee and asylum seeking children and came away with lots of good contacts and ideas for focus group questions.

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



Votes at 16

3 Get ready campaigners joined EastEnders actress Melissa Suffield (who plays Lucy Beale) in London at an event about whether 16-year-olds should be allowed to vote or not. Laura, Usman and Adam joined Melissa as part of a documentary she is making about lowering the voting age.

Outreach (Scarborough)

Krishna delivered children's rights training to 25 children and young people at St Augustine's School in Scarborough. The day was organised by Jack, a children's rights champion from Yorkshire and Humber. Jack couldn't come to our training days, so we decided to go to him!

Find out more by reading Jack's blog here: <http://tinyurl.com/l3fdsm>

Children's rights training day

Krishna ran Informed and Influential for 16 children and young people from all over England in May. They came up with campaigns on issues that they cared about, including age discrimination and the high cost of travel. One group was worried that children were not involved in writing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 20 years ago. We hope that these young people will take their campaigns forward and make change happen!

The next Informed and Influential will be in Cambridge on Saturday 19 September. For more information contact kmaroo@crae.org.uk.



Every Headline Matters - Windsor



On 18 June, Report Right chair Daniel-Sean and Krishna headed to Windsor Castle for a 2 day event called 'Every Headline Matters'. The event brought together Channel 4, BBC, children's charities and young people to discuss negative images of young people in the media, and how we can work together to get more positive stories about young people in the press. Daniel-Sean gave a great presentation about naming and shaming, and also made some excellent contacts for the campaign.

See Daniel-Sean's video blog here: http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaigns/comments/every_headline_matters/

Spotlight on the UNCRC

Article 42 of the UNCRC says that governments must tell everyone about all the rights in the Convention. When we carried out our children's rights investigation we found that very few children are given information about the UNCRC in school. Lots of children do not know what the UNCRC is really about.

Our report to the UN said that the Government must make sure that the UNCRC is part of the curriculum for children for all ages. You also asked for the Government to provide more information about the UNCRC to parents and other adults.

Dates for your diary

- **18-19 July steering group residential (Leicester)**
- **26 August campaign day - all three campaigns (London)**
- **19 September Informed and Influential (Cambridge)**

Kat makes a video

At the end of April, Kat was filmed by Hampshire County Council for a project about children's rights and article 42. Here's what happened...

On April 30th I was filmed, by Hampshire County Council for a project... They are making a DVD for teachers in Hampshire and are trying to persuade teachers to teach children and young people about their rights in different and creative ways. This would help the Government achieve article 42: The Government must ensure that they do everything to make sure everyone knows about the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child. The young people would not just be learning about their rights, but their responsibilities and how they should respect it too. It's going to include an example of a classroom using a technique they thought of. The lessons wouldn't just be in Citizenship classes, but English too (and others); for example for infant students they might learn a story about rights and respect. Children would learn how if a young person was messing around in class they would be denying someone else's right to an education and that this is why it is important that everyone respects everyone else's rights I explained what I thought of this idea, how I got involved with Children's Rights and how I think the effects of this learning style will help students, teachers and generations