



# Get ready for change!

## Project update October 2009

September and October were busy months for the Get ready team. We held a very successful conference with UNICEF and the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and have been making progress on all three campaigns. Krishna has been out and about delivering children's rights training and the team has been doing lots of travelling! Read on to find out more...

### Report Right

Report Right has been very busy for the past two months. George, Adam and Kat have been working hard on the media charter. Krishna and Sam have been contacting magistrates courts to make contact with young people that have been 'named and shamed' as a result of breaking their ASBOs. We have also been collecting information about new ASBO cases, and contacting journalists to ask what they think about being able to 'naming and shaming' children in the media. We will keep you posted on our progress!



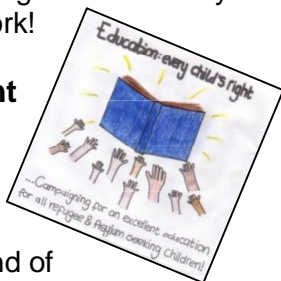
### Sharing Secrets Safely

We have finished the research done by the Sharing Secrets Safely campaign is now complete. We have found out some really interesting things about counselling and confidentiality. Children and young people also gave us lots of ideas for improving the mental health of children and young people. The campaign team has been really busy over the last few weeks as they have started the first stage of report writing. The sections we've already received have been great and we can't wait to see the rest of them! Well done, sharing Secrets Safely campaigners, for all your hard work!



### Education: every child's right

The campaign team is starting to write up the results from their research with young refugees and asylum seekers. We hope to have the report finished by the end of November! Carla has sent information about the research to Leeds University asking if members of the campaign team can present the research results at a conference in January.



Imogen and Usman have both written blogs on the Get ready website about why the campaign is so important to them. Check them out!

<http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/campaigns/right-to-education-blog>

### Putting your rights into practice

On Thursday 10 September, Get ready campaigners helped to run a conference with UNICEF UK and DCSF. The aim of the conference was to give children and young people the chance to talk to the Government about the action it is taking on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child's concluding observations made to the UK Government in October 2008.



Baroness Morgan, the Children's Minister, came to the event and was very impressed by the how much the Get ready volunteers knew about children's rights, and their willingness to come up with ideas to help the Government. We hope that the discussions at the event will have a big influence on the Government's policies for children and young people.



### Takeover Day 2009

Takeover day is one day each year where children and young people get to 'take over' all sorts of organisations. This year, CRAE has teamed up with the Department for Children, Schools and Families to give 10 young campaigners the chance to shadow a Minister or senior Government official for the day on 6 November. Check out the Get ready website next month to see how they got on!

## Get ready abroad...in Geneva

This month, Sam and Carla went to Geneva to take part in the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child's 2 day conference to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the UNCRC. Along with lots of presentations from international human rights experts including members of the Committee and the European Human Rights Commissioner, 6 working groups took place where people could explore:

- What the UNCRC means today for children and young people
- How the UNCRC should develop over the next 20 years.

Sam was invited to be an expert in the UN working group on participation, where she told the conference participants about how children are taking part in international human rights monitoring, and shared the experiences of the Get ready project in getting involved in the UNCRC reporting process.

You can find out about the recommendations that were made by the working groups at <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/docs/20th/RecommendationsCRC20.doc>.

## Get ready abroad...in Budapest

Krishna spent a week in Budapest learning about human rights education for children and young people with people from all over Europe. She told everyone about the brilliant work that the young Get ready volunteers have been doing and came back with lots of excellent ideas for children's rights training.

## Informed and Influential - children's rights training day

Our final Get ready for change! children's rights training day took place on 19 September at The Junction in Cambridge. 11 young people from the east of England came to find out more about children's rights, communication skills and campaigning. At the end of the day they put all their new skills into action in a 'Dragon's Den' style panel where they shared ideas for local children's rights campaigns. A fun day was had by all! Thank you to everyone who has taken part in our children's rights training days over the last three years.



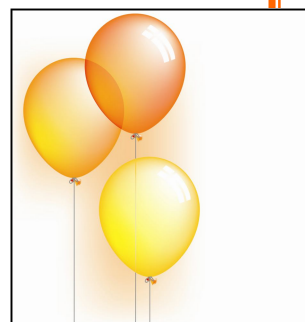
## Outreach

Krishna has been running children's rights training for secondary school students in Greenwich, and to youth parliament representatives and black and minority ethnic children in Bristol. The group in Bristol has decided to develop a children's rights campaign about the lack of things for young people to do where they live. They have also asked CRAE to visit them in a few months time to review their campaign and deliver some more training. We have lots more training and outreach happening in the next few months, so watch this space for more news on local children's rights campaigns!

## 20 years of children's rights

Celebrate 20 years of children's rights by contacting your MP and asking him or her for a meeting. Tell them why children's rights matter to you, and ask how they can promote children's rights where you live!

Jack, a champion from North Yorkshire has done just that, He will be meeting with his MP in the next few months. Good luck Jack!



Stuck for other ideas for what you can do for the UNCRC 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary? Try some of these suggestions:

- Get a local decision-maker (such as a teacher, your local MP or youth worker) to make a children's rights pledge [http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/champions/childrens\\_rights\\_pledges](http://www.getreadyforchange.org.uk/champions/childrens_rights_pledges)
- Write an article in your school newsletter to tell people about children's rights
- Plan and run a children's rights assembly
- Organise a UNCRC 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary party
- Plan a children's rights treasure hunt
- Post a blog on the Get ready website about why children's rights are important
- Organise a children's rights quiz.

For other ideas for adults and young people, check out the CRAE website <http://www.crae.org.uk/rights/uncrc20.html>

## Dates for your diary!

- Children's rights pledge month - **November 2009**
- CRAE annual conference - **20 November 2009**
- Get ready for change! Parliamentary event - **2 February 2010**
- Final Get ready for change! steering group residential - **27 and 28 February 2010**