

# The Right Way



Hi I'm Koulla,  
the Northern Ireland  
Commissioner for  
Children and Young  
People, or 'NICCY'.  
It's my job to make  
sure government  
keeps its promises,  
so you get the rights  
you should have.

Find out what the UN says government  
needs to do better, for children and  
young people in Northern Ireland.

**NICCY**  
PROMOTING THE RIGHTS OF  
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

In June 2016 the UN\* published a report known as Concluding Observations on how the UK is doing at keeping the promises it made to children and young people through the UNCRC\*\*. This report shows government The Right Way to make sure Children's Rights become a reality for you. We want to let you know about some of the things it said that are important for Northern Ireland, and how you can get involved in campaigning for your rights.

## **Making your rights a reality**

The Northern Ireland government should make plans to show how it is working to keep the promises it has made to you.

## **Your Education**

Government should make sure that all children are supported to do the best they can at school and make sure that they know about their rights.





## Your Free Time

Government should make sure all children and young people are able to rest, play and meet up in fun, safe places.



\*The United Nations (UN) is a worldwide organisation that helps countries live together peacefully and makes sure the rights of all people are respected. They have a Committee on the Rights of the Child who are experts on Children's Rights and they wrote the Concluding Observations. They do this every 6-8 years.

## Extra Protection you might need

When children do things that are against the law, the government should try to help them not to do it again, instead of using the law to punish them.

## Keeping you Safe

The Government must do more to keep all children safe at home, in schools and everywhere else.



<sup>\*\*</sup> The UNCRC or Convention on the Rights of the Child is an agreement signed by many countries that lists promises made to children and young people so that they will be treated equally and fairly.



## Negative Stereotyping

The Government should take action to make sure that people don't treat children, especially teenagers, badly because of their age.

**You're not welcome here!**



## Mental Health

The Government should spend more money in mental health services for children and young people and make sure they get the support they need, when they need it.



# You can make a difference

Get involved in making sure the Government in Northern Ireland listens to the recommendations the UN has made in its report. You can talk to your local MLA or let NICCY know what you think about how Government is keeping the promises they made to you through the UNCRC.

These are just a few of the things the UN Committee said to our government. Visit the Right Way page on our website to find out more about what it said our government needs to do to make your rights a reality:

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