

1<sup>st</sup> December 2021

**Parents and Carers  
of TQEA students**

Dear Parent/Carer

**TQEA is becoming a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School!**

I am delighted to announce that The Queen Elizabeth Academy has begun working towards a UNICEF Rights Respecting School Bronze Award.

The award will represent TQEA's commitment to understanding, promoting and celebrating diversity in our school and our local community. The award will also empower our students to understand their rights and responsibilities.

TQEA aims to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. As part of this plan we are working towards recognition as a 'Rights Respecting School', an award given to schools on behalf of UNICEF UK.

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and young people and their rights. In 1989, governments across the world agreed that all children have the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential.

The pupils will learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day. A Rights Respecting School models rights and respect in all its relationships.

We really hope that you will be able to support our school on our journey towards becoming a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School. It would be great if you could spend a few minutes reading through our questions & answers on the back of this letter, and also find a bit more about the Convention on the Rights of the Child by visiting [unicef.org.uk/crc](http://unicef.org.uk/crc).

For further information about Rights Respecting Schools please visit: [www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa](http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa)

Yours faithfully



Mr K Stewart  
Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Leader

**Becoming a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School  
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

| You might ask...  | As school leaders we think that...  |
|---|---|
| What is a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School?                       | <p>When schools get involved, the children learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day.</p> <p>Children and adults will learn about the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which outlines what children need to survive and thrive, becoming the best they can be and achieving their potential.</p>   |
| Why is this happening?  | <p>A UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School models rights and respect in all its relationships, whether between adults and pupils, between pupils or between adults. It is proven to benefit everyone in the school community to grow and learn together. Read more about the Award at <a href="http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa">www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa</a></p>   |
| How will becoming a Rights Respecting School benefit my child(ren)? | <p>This approach works in many schools across the country to improve well-being and develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. Headteachers from schools involved in the Award say it has improved children's and young people's respect for themselves and others and contributed to children and young people being more engaged in their learning.</p>   |
| How can I get involved?   | <p>We hope you will support the school's journey to become a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting School. Please do read about the Convention and UNICEF's work (see below) to see what it's all about!</p>  |
| What is the Convention on the Rights of the Child?                  | <p>In 1989, governments worldwide promised all children the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention recognised that all children have the right to be treated with dignity and fairness, to be protected, to develop to their full potential and to participate. The rights in the Convention describe what a child needs to survive, grow, and live up to their potential in the world. They apply equally to every child, no matter who they are or where they come from.</p> <p>The Convention changed the way children are viewed and treated – in other words, as human beings with a distinct set of rights instead of as passive objects of care and charity. It is the most widely ratified human rights treaty – only the United States has not ratified it. The UK signed up to it in 1991.</p> <p>You can read more about it at <a href="http://www.unicef.org.uk/crc">www.unicef.org.uk/crc</a> and download a summary of the articles at <a href="http://bit.ly/CRC-over11">bit.ly/CRC-over11</a></p> |
| What is UNICEF?   | <p>UNICEF UK is a registered charity. It raises funds through donations from individuals, organisations and companies and campaigns to keep children safe. <a href="http://www.unicef.org.uk">www.unicef.org.uk</a></p>   |