

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS FROM THE START



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that adults should know about children's rights and should help children learn about them (Article 42).

There are four overarching general principles:

- Non-discrimination (Article 2)
- Best interest of the child (Article 3)
- Right to life, survival and development (Article 6)
- Right to be heard (Article 12)

CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- A name, nationality and identity (Articles 7 & 8)
- Live with their parents, if possible, or with a family that cares for them (Article 9 & 18)
- Extra help and special care if they cannot live with their parents (Article 20), if they are seeking refuge (Article 22) or if they have a disability (Article 23)
- Give their opinion and for adults to listen and take it seriously (Article 12)
- Choose their own religion and beliefs (Articles 14 & 20) and choose their own friends (Article 15)
- Information that they can understand, especially information for their health and wellbeing (Article 17)
- Protection from harm, including all forms of violence, abuse and neglect, and harm from drugs, sexual exploitation, trafficking and cruel punishment (Articles 19, 33, 34, 35, 37)
- Help for recovery if they have been hurt, neglected or badly treated (Article 39)
- The best health care possible, safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment (Article 24)
- A good education and encouragement to develop their talents and abilities (Articles 28 & 29)

All children under 18 have these rights, without discrimination (Articles 1 & 2)

Rights from the Start aims to increase dental professionals' awareness of children's rights and to encourage thinking what difference this makes when working with children. Children's rights are interdependent and indivisible, but here we highlight those of particular relevance to dental professionals.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE UN CONVENTION



British Society of
Paediatric Dentistry

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