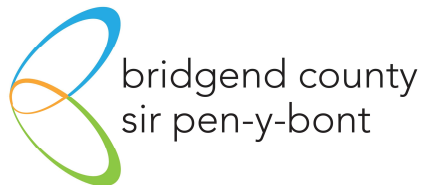




Bridgend County Children & Young People's Charter

Promoting the Rights & Responsibilities of Children and Young People

2011



This Charter is based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) to promote and safeguard the rights and interests of all children and young people within Bridgend County. It provides a focus for children and young people to know about their rights and responsibilities and we will encourage its adoption by all partner agencies to meet our responsibility in promoting the UNCRC. Children and young people recognise they have responsibilities in receiving their rights and in meeting the rights of others. This charter outlines the rights that children and young people have and the need to respect that others have the same rights.

 **All children and young people have the right to:
Be healthy and safe**

- Have help and appropriate support to stay healthy;
- Have a choice of services that will meet individual needs;
- Live, socialise, learn and work in a safe environment, free from bullying and from being a victim of crime;
- Not to be taken advantage of by others and not discriminated against in any way (racial, gender, disability, language etc).

Respecting their rights and the rights of others:

- Be aware of risks that can affect their own health and well being or the health and well being of others;
- Be aware of personal risks and risks to others and how to avoid them;

'UNCRC Article 6: You have the right to life. Governments should ensure that children survive and develop healthily'

'UNCRC Article 19: Governments should ensure that children are properly cared for, and protect them from violence, abuse and neglect by their parents or anyone else who looks after them'

 **All children and young people have the right to:
Learn and achieve**

- Be provided the opportunity to achieve to the best of their ability within high quality learning environments;
- Have their individual learning needs met within all learning opportunities and settings.

Respecting their rights and the rights of others:

- Respect other people such as friends, parents and other community members offering support;
- Accept responsibility to achieve and not prevent others from achieving.

UNCRC Article 28: You have the right to an education. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Primary education should be free. Wealthy countries should help poorer countries achieve this.

✚ All Children and Young People have the right to: Have a say and make a positive contribution to the community

- Be listened to and have views and opinions taken seriously;
- Be encouraged to have a voice and have choices respected.

Respecting their rights and the rights of others:

- To have your voice heard while respecting others' opinions and differences;
- Treat others as you want to be treated, for example don't bully or discriminate.

UNCRC Article 12: You have the right to say what you think should happen when adults are making decisions that affect you, and to have your opinions taken into account

UNCRC Article 30: You have the right to learn and use the language and customs of your family whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where you live.

✚ All children and young people have the right to: Participate and enjoy

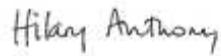
- To take part in activities of choice that meet the needs of all children and young people;
- Take part in activities within a safe environment such as a youth club, play area etc.;
- To take part in locally based activities;

Respecting their rights and the rights of others:

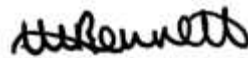
- Show respect for property and those providing support and guidance;
- Enable others to participate in and enjoy activities.

UNCRC Article 31: You have the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of activities.

On behalf of the partnership agencies:



Hilary Anthony, Children's Directorate BCBC



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Youth Mayor, Bridgend Youth Council



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