



United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) Report

Easy to read summary for young
people and their parents and carers



What is the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)?

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, called UNCRC for short, explains the rights that every child has. These are all of the things every child, which is anyone under the age of 18, should have and be able to do.

For example, children have the right to be safe, to have enough food and clean water, to get an education, to be treated fairly, and to have adults listen to their views. Every human has rights, but children have their own list because they have different needs to adults.



What is Skills Development Scotland?

Skills Development Scotland (often called SDS) is Scotland's skills agency. That means we help people learn new skills, find learning that is right for them, and find work. We run Scotland's careers service for people of all ages. You might have met an SDS careers adviser in school, or you might have used the My World of Work website to explore jobs and courses.

We also help organise apprenticeships, which are ways to learn a job by doing it, usually with an employer. We work with employers and colleges to understand how jobs are changing (for example, because of new technology) and what skills young people may need now and in the future.



What are our commitments to young people?

We want to make sure we help children and young people have access to their rights. Below are our main promises (our commitments). They explain how we will treat you and how we will improve our services.

1. We listen to what you say and value your opinion

We ask young people what they think about our services (for example, careers advice, online information, or apprenticeships). We will use what they tell us to make our services better.



2. We won't discriminate against you

We want to make sure that everyone can use our services, no matter who they are. We try to understand what young people need, and we provide extra support when someone needs it so that services are fair for everyone.

3. We care about your safety and wellbeing

All our staff learn how to keep children safe and what to do if they are worried about a child. They also learn how to support young people who have had difficult or upsetting experiences. This helps us treat everyone with care and respect.

4. We give you the information you need

We make sure the information we give you is clear, easy to use, and correct. This helps you make choices about your learning, training or work. Our online services are there to help you find information. We work with children to develop the information on our websites so that it is easy to understand and useful.

5. We help the adults in your life to support you

We know that parents, carers, teachers and other adults help you make choices about your future learning, training or work. We will give these adults the right information to help you make decisions and feel confident about your future.



6. We support you to access learning and development

We make sure that children and young people know what learning, training, or job opportunities are available, and how to take part in them. This includes having apprenticeship opportunities where young people can learn while they are working.

When we speak to employers and other organisations, we will encourage them to have good learning and work opportunities for young people to go to.



You can find out more about us here:

My World of Work – Our careers and skills website

Apprenticeships.scot – Our apprenticeships website

Skills Development Scotland – Our corporate website

Get in touch with us here or call us on 0800 917 8000

