

Gold Rights Respecting School



We are extremely proud to be a Gold Rights Respecting School. A Rights Respecting ethos is at the heart of everything we do at Blanford Mere helping us to 'be the best we can be'. This is the highest stage of the Rights Respecting Schools Award. It is granted by Unicef UK to schools that have fully embedded children's rights throughout the school in its policies, practise and ethos. You can read what the assessor thought of our RRSA work in our [Gold Accreditation Report](#).

On the 20th November 1989 the world made a set of promises for every child on earth. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is an international statement of all of those promises. UNICEF protects and promotes those rights.

These rights try to make sure that every child is healthy, educated, treated fairly and listened to. They also make sure that all children are protected from violence, abuse and exploitation.

"Rights" are things every child should have or be able to do. All children have the same rights. These rights are listed in the [UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#).

RRSA Charters

Every classroom has a class charter to help us respect rights everywhere in school. Here is our [Whole School Class Charter](#) in place across school. We also have a [Playground Charter](#) to ensure we are respecting each other's rights outside too.

RRSA Champions

We have a team of Rights Respecting Champions that work to ensure every member of our school community is aware of children's rights. As a Gold Rights Respecting School we are able to place the rights of each child at the heart of our school ethos.

School Council

Our School Council consists of annually elected members representing each year group across school. The purpose of the council is to provide a voice for the children of Blanford Mere Primary School. They meet regularly and are proactive in improving life for children in the school by raising concerns that have arisen from discussions within their class council meetings. We respect the views and contributions made by our school council and aim to use these to make improvements to the school whenever possible. The School Council are excellent at identifying issues that are

important to them and tackling them. They have recently had a say in lunch menus and playground improvements.

We have witnessed that this award has a really positive influence on the school community, including:

- Improved self-esteem and wellbeing
- Improved relationships and behaviour
- Improved engagement in learning
- Positive attitudes towards diversity in society and the reduction in prejudice
- Children's enhanced moral understanding and support for global justice
- Children becoming more involved in decision making in school.