



THE CHILD'S RIGHT TO PLAY: CAPTURING CHILDREN'S VOICES ON ARTICLE 31

INFORMATION SHEET



OVERVIEW

The Project focuses on children's right to play as expressed in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on The Rights of the Child. International Play Association Scotland will be working with The Children's Parliament in order to bring children's voices to the area of public debate and concern.

The Children's Parliament with IPA Scotland wants to arrange a number of workshops in different locations across Scotland, which will engage with around 8 to 10 children aged 3-13, in each group. The session will be approximately 90 minutes long and will use a mix of arts / creative approaches facilitated by Claire Irvine, the Children's Parliament Consultation Worker to find out how young people feel about their right to play and whether it is being met.

The first part of the session will encourage children to explore what play is and whether they think it is important that they have the right to play; children will be encouraged to work in groups and talk about their own experiences. We will then use different scenarios to find out what factors enable children to play and what they feel the barriers are.

We are hoping to involve approximately 300 children overall, both boys and girls, from different places and with a range of abilities. The sessions will take place over June/July/August this year and we hope to see school groups before the summer holidays commence. We appreciate, however, that in some instances it may be better to work in smaller groups than 8 to 10 and this can be discussed with the Children's Consultation Worker beforehand.

OUTCOME

The views of the children and possibly some of their artwork will be used to create a written report and series of striking visual posters; which will raise awareness among adults of how children feel about their right to play and encourage them to think about how they can best support the realisation of this fundamental human right.

USE OF MEDIA

The discussion may be recorded using audio equipment but no video footage will be taken; however, we would like to take still images of the children taking part and therefore attached photography consent forms to be completed by parents or carers beforehand.

CONTACT

If you are interested in giving the children you work with the opportunity to take part in this consultation or would like more information, then please contact Vicki Burns, Projects & Consultations Manager with The Children's Parliament on 0131 5589030 or E-mail: vicki@childrensparliament.org.uk

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Children's Parliament introduces children to a world of ideas, creating opportunities for reflection and critical thinking as a part of mainstream Scottish society. Through participation children make their contribution to a compassionate, just Scotland by becoming active and engaged contributors. Find out more about them here: www.childrensparliament.org.uk

IPA Scotland is the national branch of the International Play Association : Promoting the Child's Right to Play; they initiate a wide variety of projects to protect, preserve and promote that right as a fundamental human one. Find out more information about them here: www.ipascotland.org

