

Dear Parents,

Blackhall Colliery Primary School aims to be a school where every aspect of a child is focused on and developed, including the area of well being. As part of our school's aims to promote a happy and successful school, we are working towards recognition as a "Rights Respecting School". This is an award which is given to schools on behalf of UNICEF.

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. In 1989, governments worldwide promised all children the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential.

The 'Rights Respecting School' award (RRSA) will help our pupils to grow into confident, caring and responsible young citizens both in school and within the wider community. By learning about their rights our pupils, your children, also learn about the importance of respecting the rights of others.

Blackhall Colliery Primary School pupils are encouraged to reflect on how their behaviour and actions affect those around them, which allows us to build and maintain a positive and safe learning environment for all, both in the classroom and around the school site. In consultation with pupils and staff at all levels, our school rules and expectations are being re-written to form charters, which outline expectations in school using rights respecting language .

Pupils have already started developing an understanding of their rights in school through assemblies and activities and we'd like to share this work with you on a regular basis.

We will form a steering group made up of children, staff, governors and parents which will meet up once every half term to discuss issues relating to RRSA. If you would be interested in becoming part of this group, please let us know.

It would be great if you could spend a few minutes reading through the Convention on the Rights of the Child. There will also be a dedicated area of our School Website, which will house lots of information about these rights, available shortly.

We really hope that you will feel able to support us and your child in working towards our goal of being a 'Rights Respecting School'. We'd love for you to become involved.

If you would like more information about the work of UNICEF or a Rights Respecting School then please visit: www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa.