

HOW TO SUPPORT PRE-SCHOOLERS RIGHTS



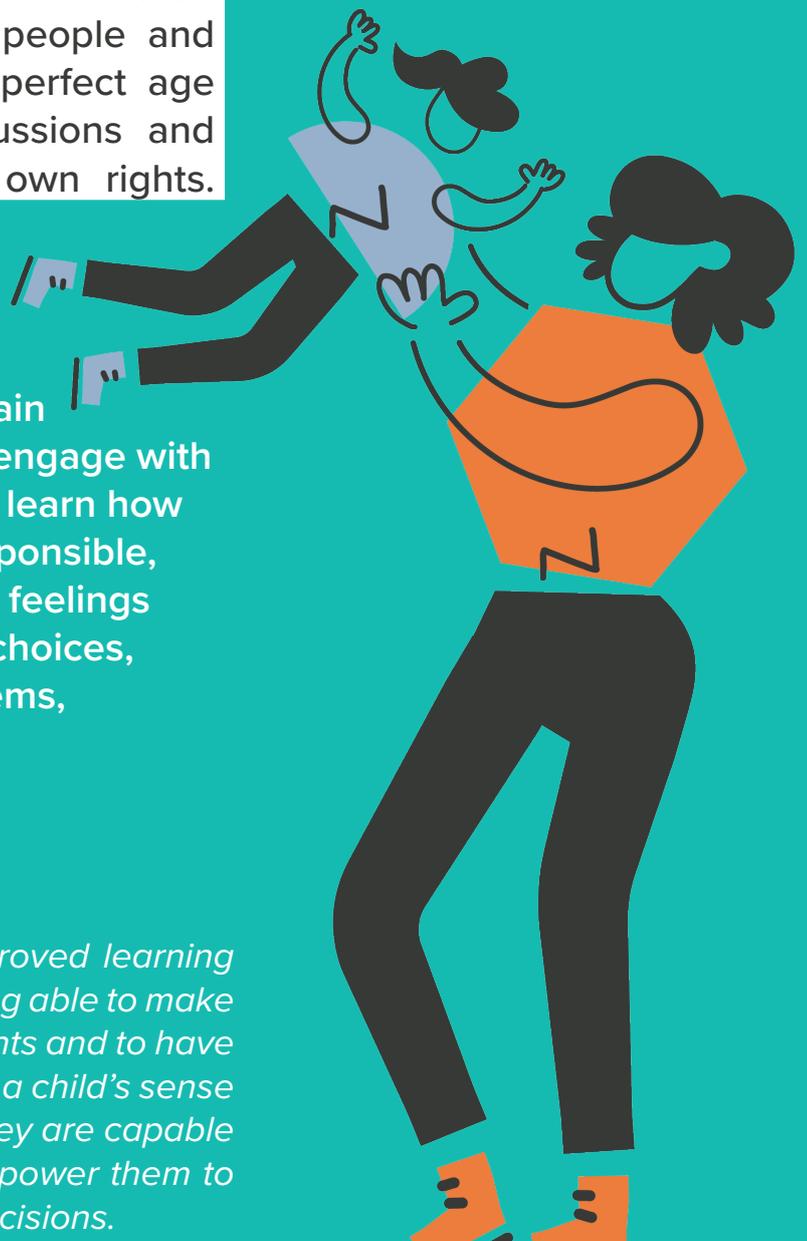
PLANT YNG NGHYMRU
CHILDREN IN WALES

*The early years are a “critical period for realizing children’s rights”
(United Nations 2006, p. 3).*

Pre-schoolers are finding out about their rights as they interact with the people and world around them. This is the perfect age to start engaging them in discussions and to increase awareness of their own rights.

Play is essential to the health and wellbeing of children and is the main way that very young children can engage with their rights. They are beginning to learn how to build relationships, become responsible, manage their emotions, develop a feelings vocabulary, make good/informed choices, initiate own learning, solve problems, recognise another’s point of view and develop a sense of agency.

What is Sense of Agency? In the approved learning frameworks, ‘agency’ is defined as being able to make choices and decisions to influence events and to have an impact on one’s world. To help build a child’s sense of agency, we should recognise that they are capable of initiating their own learning and empower them to make their own choices and decisions.



To be loved and have my needs met

Article 6 and 27

To feel safe and secure	Article 19
To be given plenty of opportunities to lead my play and play with others	Article 31
To have my ideas, thoughts and decisions listened to, respected and acted on	Article 12
Help to enable me to explore the ways in which I view my world and communicated these ideas to others	Article 13
Make connections with people, places and things	Article 7 and 28
People to engage in my learning and explore my interests with me	Article 28
People who want to see the world through my eyes and help me understand my environment	Article 7 and 13
Give me time and recognise when I need guidance and support	Article 28
To be allowed to make my own choices and decisions	Article 12
Encouragement to be 'me' and show my personality	Article 8
Everyone who looks after me and cares for me to talk to each other and shares all the important information about me, so I feel safe and secure wherever I am	Article 3
People to think about what is best for me when making any decisions about me	Article 3

Article 12 - right to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting the child, and to have them taken into account. Children are active participants in family, community and society.

If you listen to me I can help you understand what things are like for me, you can enter 'my world', and this will help me trust you and builds my self-confidence.

Give plenty of time to listen to me and take a real interest in what I have to say/share. I find it easier to talk/play with an adult I know and trust.

I communicate in lots of ways through play, body language, facial expression, drawing and painting. Sometimes you just need to watch me to work out what I am saying or feeling.

Sometimes I might not want to share my thoughts and opinions, it is okay for me to be silence, maybe you could try another time or way.