



LOCKYER'S MIDDLE SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers

As you are all aware, Lockyer's is proud to be a Level 1 Rights Respecting School. This means that children know their **rights** as detailed in the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)*; and that students and staff understand how we can respect the rights of others.

Recently, Unicef - who assess schools to be Rights Respecting - changed the awards. Schools will now be granted Bronze, Silver or Gold awards. We are excited to share with you that we will be re-accredited by Unicef on Thursday 19th April. The school, including the children, have been working hard in preparation for this visit and we wanted to share some of our key achievements with you.

Our aim at Lockyer's is to ensure that children have a wider view of the world around them. This enables children to understand how their rights are met and how we need to respect the rights of other children – some of whom are not always lucky enough to have all their rights met. Not only do we ensure that children are taught about key issues through Global Citizenship lessons in KS2 and PSHE in KS3, but we also make sure that children are kept up-to-date by ensuring they regularly watch Newsround.

We encourage children to influence school decisions and have their voices heard. Each class has a school council representative that has been chosen by the class and meet every week. Every child is also able to attend Article 12 meetings weekly, where we discuss our progress as a Rights Respecting School and how we can further these. We also have a range of other opportunities for children to become involved in school life, including Sports Leaders, Librarians and more recently, Peer Mediators.

Over recent months, we have been working hard to build links between ourselves and other schools around the globe. In December, our advanced vocal group visited Montacute School in Poole to put on a small Christmas concert for the children and staff. We have also been writing pen-pal letters to a school in Ghana. This is an extremely valuable link that we would like to further develop in the future. Before Easter, we were also lucky enough to begin a link with a local nursing home. Unfortunately, our initial visit didn't go to plan but we did manage to deliver Easter cards and gifts to the residents. We hope to plan further visits in the Summer Term.

"We feel that it is important that every child around the globe knows and respects their rights. We feel lucky enough to be at a school that supports us to learn about this and gives us different opportunities to influence decisions" – Article 12 group, April 2018.

At Lockyer's, we are proud to be a Rights Respecting School. Together young people and the school community can learn about children's rights, putting them into practice every day. The Award is not just about what children do, but also importantly what adults do. In Rights Respecting Schools, children's rights are promoted and realised; adults and children work towards this goal together.

Yours faithfully

Miss K Stark
Head of Year 6

Mrs L Evans
Head of Year 5

Excellence through endeavour