

**Press Release**

[Date]

# [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] JOINS UNICEF UK'S OUTRIGHT CAMPAIGN TO SPEAK OUT ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

On [INSERT DATE OF EVENT] pupils at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will be taking/took part in OutRight – a nationwide celebration of children's rights organised by Unicef UK. [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] is one of hundreds of Unicef UK's Rights Respecting Schools across the country to be speaking/speak out on children's rights and will join/joined the celebration by [INSERT EVENT ACTIVITY]

The OutRight campaign celebrates the anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. On the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1989 the global community made a set of commitments to children when it adopted the convention, which states that all children have one thing in common – their rights.

This year, OutRight focuses on the rights of unaccompanied refugee children. Children are fleeing war and disaster in greater numbers than at any time since World War 2. So many have lost their family, friends, homes and schools.

Pupils at [INSERT SCHOOL NAME] will develop their understanding of children's rights and will speak out for the rights of refugee children with their school community. They will also call on local MPs to ask the Home Secretary to protect the rights of unaccompanied refugee children by reuniting them with their families in the UK.

[Insert Name, Job title] said "QUOTE FROM STAFF MEMBER ON WHY THE SCHOOL IS INVOLVED, WHY THEY FEEL THIS IS IMPORTANT"

[Insert student name, age] said "OVERVIEW OF WHAT THEY HAVE DONE AND WHY THEY THINK IT'S IMPORTANT"

Frances Bestley, Rights Respecting Schools Director, said: "Right now, refugee children are in real danger. Millions have risked dangerous journeys in search of

safety or to be reunited with loved ones. No one is better placed to champion children’s rights than children and young people themselves and it is vital their voices are heard by every level of government.”

The Unicef UK Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) supports over 4,000 schools across the UK to embed children’s rights in their ethos and culture.

--ENDS--

For further information on this event at \_\_\_\_\_ *[name of school]*, please contact:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For further information on Unicef, please contact:

Unicef UK Press Office

Tel: 020 7375 6030

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### **Notes to editors**

#### **About Unicef UK’s Rights Respecting Schools Award**

The Unicef UK Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) supports schools across the UK to embed children’s rights in their ethos and culture. The award recognises achievement in putting the UN Convention on the Right of the Child (UNCRC) at the heart of a school’s practice to improve well-being and help develop every child’s talents and abilities to their full potential. Over 4,000 primary and secondary schools in the UK are involved, and many have reported a positive impact on behaviour, relationships and well-being, leading to better learning, improved academic standards and a reduction in bullying. Read more at [www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa](http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa).

#### **About Unicef**

Unicef promotes the rights and well-being of every child, in everything we do. Together with our partners, we work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere. Unicef UK raises funds for Unicef’s emergency and development work and advocates for lasting change for children everywhere. We are a UK registered charity, supported entirely by voluntary donations. We

do not receive any money from the UN. For more information, please  
visit [unicef.org.uk](http://unicef.org.uk)