

Realising Rights Network UK

'Improving the wellbeing of all through just and sustainable living'

Global Learning needs *Global* Values



All teaching and learning takes place within a values framework – either implicit or explicit.

***Realising* Rights is a part of the family of UN Human Rights Educators and with them we advocate for Human Rights to be the basis of those values. The universality of Human Rights makes them the obvious framework to enhance Global Learning.**

Human Rights and Global Learning... *in a nutshell*

- The UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and subsequent Conventions provide a universally agreed set of principles which underpin the scale and intent of the Global Learning Programme.
- The UN's Human Rights Based Approaches (HRBA) provide a framework of knowledge, skills and values that enhance the aims of the Global Learning Programme.
- Human Rights Education promotes critical thinking, learning through dialogue and high quality participation. There is evidence from schools and other organisations that Human Rights based approaches have a positive impact on relationships and respect for diversity.
- Global Learning is at its best when provided in a school that fully embraces Human Rights principles and values in all its practices.

The key issues for the Global Learning Programme - international development, inequality, poverty, security, conflict resolution, trade and sustainability – are better understood and analysed by learners using the tools provided by a Human Rights Based Approach. *For example*, Human Rights provide benchmarks for social justice and they help us to learn and understand not only where there are deficiencies and abuses, but offer us guidance in the actions we can take to make our world fairer and more just. This way of working aligns with the Human Rights Based Approach used by the United Nations and its agencies in all their work.

The Human Rights Based Approach

The UN's **Human Rights Based Approach** is a 'journey' and doesn't require assessment from outside bodies - it is about participating and collaborating with other Human Rights based organisations in implementing and promoting human rights in all it does.

When any organisation adopts a Human Rights Based Approach, it commits to embed globally agreed principles and practices in its work. Human Rights Education is essential to this approach as everyone in that organisation needs to learn about and act in ways to deliver rights for themselves and for others.

Making a Difference through Human Rights Education

What we do

We support organisations, such as schools, local communities or public services to develop their values and implement an ethos and practices based upon the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but will give particular reference to other Human Rights documents, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights for People with Disabilities which may be of special relevance for the organisation.

What difference does a Human Rights Approach make?

There is an increasing body of evidence of positive impact of using Human Rights Based Approaches from work with young people and adults in settings ranging from nurseries, children's centres, primary, secondary and special schools and youth clubs. Children, teachers, parents and those working with support services have each described similar patterns of impact that make a definite difference.



Using a Human Rights Based Approach:

"The adoption of a HRBA was successful in supporting a cultural change from an institution where rights were largely "left at the door", and with a "them and us" culture, towards an organisation with a more positive and constructive atmosphere with mutual respect between staff and patients."

(Executive Summary of 'Human Rights in Healthcare: Making it work for everyone.' Scottish Human Rights Commission 2011)

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights starts from the premise that everyone has rights and that every child and every adult matters.

About **RealisingRights**

RealisingRights brings together a team of professional educators who have worked in the field of Human Rights for many years. They now work with schools and communities to show how human rights, based upon the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, can be placed at the heart of the ethos of a school, community or business to make a positive difference to the wellbeing of adults and children locally and globally.

To find out more, you can go to our website:
www.realisingrights.org.uk

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We are able to offer a wide range of courses. These can be from our current list or we can prepare bespoke courses in partnership with a particular school, community organisation or business. Please contact us for more details.