# A Child Rights Approach to an Inclusive Classroom

## Self-paced online summer course for primary school educators

By participating in this online course you will gain the appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills to create a rights respecting environment in the classroom and wider school, in which children's rights are learned, taught, practiced, respected, protected and promoted. You will experience and gather a range of active learning and digital classroom methodologies, and planning tools, that promote child participation, critical thinking, and empathy and understanding amongst your students.

## Audience

This course is designed for primary school teachers. Teaching principals and deputy principals are welcome to participate too. Many activities and strategies explored are classroom based and may not be the most useful for administrative principals.

## Length

This course will run twice:

- Course 1 will be available to access from Monday 3rd – Friday 14th July;
- Course 2 will be available to access from Monday 17th July to Friday 28th July.

When you register for a course, you must stay in that group. You can complete the 20-hour course at your own pace over the two-week block. You must spend at least 12.5 hours online engaging with the course content and at least 7.5 hours offline engaging with recommended reading and assignments. There are no synchronous (live teaching) sessions.

## EPV Days

This course is approved by the Department of Education. If you engage with the required course content and complete the required assessment, you will receive a course certificate that entitles you to three EPV days.

## Course Fee

The course fee is €35 to cover course administration and UNICEF Ireland's child rights education programme costs.

## Methodologies

You will acquire knowledge by engaging in multiple online learning components, such as watching videos, reading, and listening to presentations. You will complete tasks to

test and reinforce this knowledge. Reflective questioning and learning assignments also feature throughout.

## Structure

This course has five modules. After completing the module you will be enabled to:

### Module 1: The Convention on the Rights of the Child

- Describe the difference between wants, needs and rights
- Describe the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), and its relevance for Irish society and schools
- Describe a child rights approach to education

### Module 2: Child Participation

- Describe Article 12 of the CRC and its relevance for teaching and learning
- Explain the Lundy model of participation
- Implement strategies to facilitate participation with purpose in class

### Module 3: Rights Respecting Classroom

- Identify and describe articles of the CRC relevant to an inclusive classroom
- Implement strategies to foster an environment that respects each child's unique identity
- Facilitate the development of a child led classroom charter

### Module 4: A Welcome Classroom

- Build an understanding of what life is like for people forced to flee their homes
- Define the terms refugee, migrant, asylum seeker, displaced person, and explain their rights
- Implement strategies in your classroom to welcome children who have been forced to flee their homes

### Module 5: Inclusive School

- Describe children's rights in the digital environment
- Set up and run an effective student council
- Apply rights-based approach to inclusion across the whole school

## Assessment

You will be required to do a pre-course assessment and final assessment survey. In each module you must engage with the online tasks. You must contribute to the discussion forum in each module – at least one post and one reply of 100 words. You will also have to upload an assignment at the end of each module. The lock for the following module will only be released when your assignment has been uploaded. You must keep a learning log throughout the course. This is a record of your forum posts and assignments. You can copy and paste these to a word document as you progress through the course. You will complete a final reflection at the end of course, also to be included in the learning log. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If plagiarism has been suspected, you will be asked you provide evidence that the work is yours. If you cannot provide this evidence, you will be asked to resubmit the assignment. You

will only receive a course certificate after the learning log has been completed and uploaded.

### Course Tutor

You will be assigned a course tutor who will support you to achieve the learning outcomes of the course. They will also provide technical support, accessing and engaging with the learning platform. They will be available from 9 am – 4:30 pm Monday to Friday during your course block.

### Course Access

Registration for the course will open in April 2023. Spaces are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Once we have received your payment, we will email you to confirm your place on the course. You will receive another email from your course tutor the morning that your course opens, outlining the steps to follow to register an account on the learning platform, Agora, and enrol in the course. You can change your mind and request a refund up to ten days before the course, as this gives us enough time to allocate your place to somebody else. However, if you miss this deadline, we you will not receive a refund.

We recommend that you complete this course on a PC or laptop. The components may be less responsive on tablets or phones. If you must use a tablet or phone, the components will work better if you download and access the course through the Agora app.