



Salvesen Mindroom Centre
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Respecting & Promoting Children's Rights

How our work supports the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Information for Parents, Carers & Professionals

In the UK, the legal definition of a disability is 'a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on your ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'. This can include neurodivergent conditions such as ADHD, ASD, DCD, Dyslexia or Tourette's Syndrome. People with disabilities have protected rights as outlined in the Equality Act 2010, and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Convention was adopted by the UN in 2006 and the UK agreed to follow it in 2009.

The convention is made up of 50 Articles that describe the rights of people with disabilities in detail. The Salvesen Mindroom Centre fully endorses all of the rights described in this convention and we have listed some of the articles that relate most closely to our own work, along with examples of how our work supports them.

You can read the convention in full at [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CRPD\) | United Nations Enable](#)

An easy-read version is available at [IS164 07 Easyread UN Convention on Human Rights \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Article Number	What it says (Quoted from the Easyread version linked above)	How we support it
<p>4. General Obligations</p>	<p>All countries should make sure that disabled people actually do get treated equally. They promise to do as much as they can afford to make sure disabled people have equal access to things like housing, education and health care.</p> <p>All countries should involve disabled people in making new laws and policies.</p>	<p>We are members of a wide range of cross-party groups in the Scottish Parliament to voice issues affecting neurodivergent children and young people.</p> <p>We write to the Scottish government when there are things that we believe they need to take action on, and we respond to consultations that they issue.</p> <p>We work directly with children and young people, parents and carers, and professionals to promote equality for neurodivergent children and young people.</p>
<p>6. Women with disabilities</p>	<p>Countries agree that women and girls who are disabled are treated unfairly in lots of different ways. They will work to make sure that disabled women and girls have full, free and equal lives.</p>	<p>We know that women and girls are less likely to receive a formal diagnosis of a neurodivergent condition than boys and men, even though they are still affected by them.</p> <p>We work to raise awareness of the need to recognise neurodiversity in girls and women and can help them to voice their need for support.</p>
<p>7. Children with disabilities</p>	<p>Disabled children have the same rights as other children and should be treated equally with others. What is best for the child will be the most important thing to think about.</p> <p>Disabled children have the right to be heard in all things that can affect them in their lives. Support will be given to children to help make this happen.</p>	<p>Our work always focuses on what is best for the child – children and young people are at the heart of what we do. We help parents, carers and professionals to better understand the needs of neurodivergent young people, and to listen to what they think. We also work directly with children and young people to help them voice their opinions and, in some cases, we speak on their behalf.</p>
<p>8. Giving people information</p>	<p>Countries agree to do things to make everyone else aware that disabled people have the same rights as everyone else and to show them what disabled people can do.</p>	<p>We believe in focusing on the positives, in what a person can do, and on their strengths. We use our newsletter and social media channels to celebrate the successes of the children & young people that we support where this is appropriate. We provide training to professionals and employers to help them to do the same.</p>

Article Number	What it says (Quoted from the Easyread version linked above)	How we support it
12. Being treated equally by the law	<p>Disabled people are to be respected by the law like everyone else.</p> <p>They have the same right to make their own decisions about important things as everyone else.</p> <p>Disabled people should have the proper support they need when making decisions.</p>	<p>Our Children & Young People's service provides advice, support and advocacy to help children and young people be involved in decisions that affect them.</p>
19. Independent Living	<p>Disabled people should have the same choices as everyone else about how they live and being part of their communities.</p>	<p>Our Transitions Advocacy service helps young people who are approaching the transition to adulthood to think about what they want for themselves in the future, and to share those thoughts with other people.</p> <p>Our Direct Help & Support Teams can work with children, young people, families and professionals to help neurodivergent children & young people play a part in their local communities.</p>
20. Getting about	<p>Countries should make sure disabled people can get about independently as much as possible.</p>	<p>We design and share resources to help improve the lives of neurodivergent children & young people, promoting independence and participation.</p>
24. Education	<p>Disabled people have a right to education.</p> <p>Countries will make sure disabled people have the opportunity to go to mainstream schools and can carry on learning throughout their lives.</p>	<p>For children and young people whose neurodivergence affects their learning we offer advice and support to the people who are responsible for teaching them and managing their education.</p> <p>We also work with organisations like the General Teaching Council for Scotland and teacher training colleges to make sure teachers in Scotland have a better understanding of how neurodiversity can impact on learning, and how they can help.</p>
25. Health	<p>Disabled people have the right to good health and access to health services.</p>	<p>We provide advice and support to health professionals so that they can better understand the needs of neurodivergent young people and make sure that their health and wellbeing are the best they can be.</p>

Article Number	What it says (Quoted from the Easyread version linked above)	How we support it
26. Services to help	Countries will make sure disabled people can lead an independent and healthy a life as possible and will provide support in health, work, education and social services to help that happen.	We provide training and advice to professionals in many different fields, including health, employment, education and social services.
27. Work	Disabled people have a right to work, equal with others.	<p>We work with Young People who are approaching the end of school to reflect on their strengths and think about how they might like to use them in the future.</p> <p>We can provide training on neurodiversity in the workplace.</p>
30. Sport & leisure	Disabled people have the right to take part in sports and leisure as much as anybody else.	We provide advice and support to professionals who provide leisure facilities so that young people affected by neurodiversity can enjoy equal access to them.



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