

# **YOUR VIEWS COUNT!**

It is very important to North Ayrshire Child Protection Committee that Children and Young people in North Ayrshire are listened to, understood and respected in their daily lives. This is because you have a right to participate in things that may affect you and have your views taken into account.

Adults, including professionals have a responsibility to ensure you get this chance. Many important documents such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, The Children (Scotland) Act 1995 and The Children's Charter ensures that this happens for all children and young people because;

- ❑ It is really important that your right to be listened to is upheld.
- ❑ You have a right to express an opinion and be taken seriously.
- ❑ Your views are really important when decisions are being made that may affect your life. This can be something that happens in school or in your personal life, either way what you say can make a difference.
- ❑ If you are worried about anything, talking to a trusted adult and being listened to can help protect you from harm.
- ❑ Often you will have a choice in the decisions being made about your life in many different situations.
- ❑ Just participating can make understanding the decisions being that may affect you, much easier.

## **REMEMBER**

There are many people who are happy to listen to you and who will respect what you have to say. You can share your views with any trusted adult you know such as a parent, grandparent, carer, teacher, police officer, social worker, school nurse or group leader perhaps.

**Whatever the situation - Your Views Count!**

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