# UNICEF UK CHILD FRIENDLY CITIES **AND COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME**

## How we work

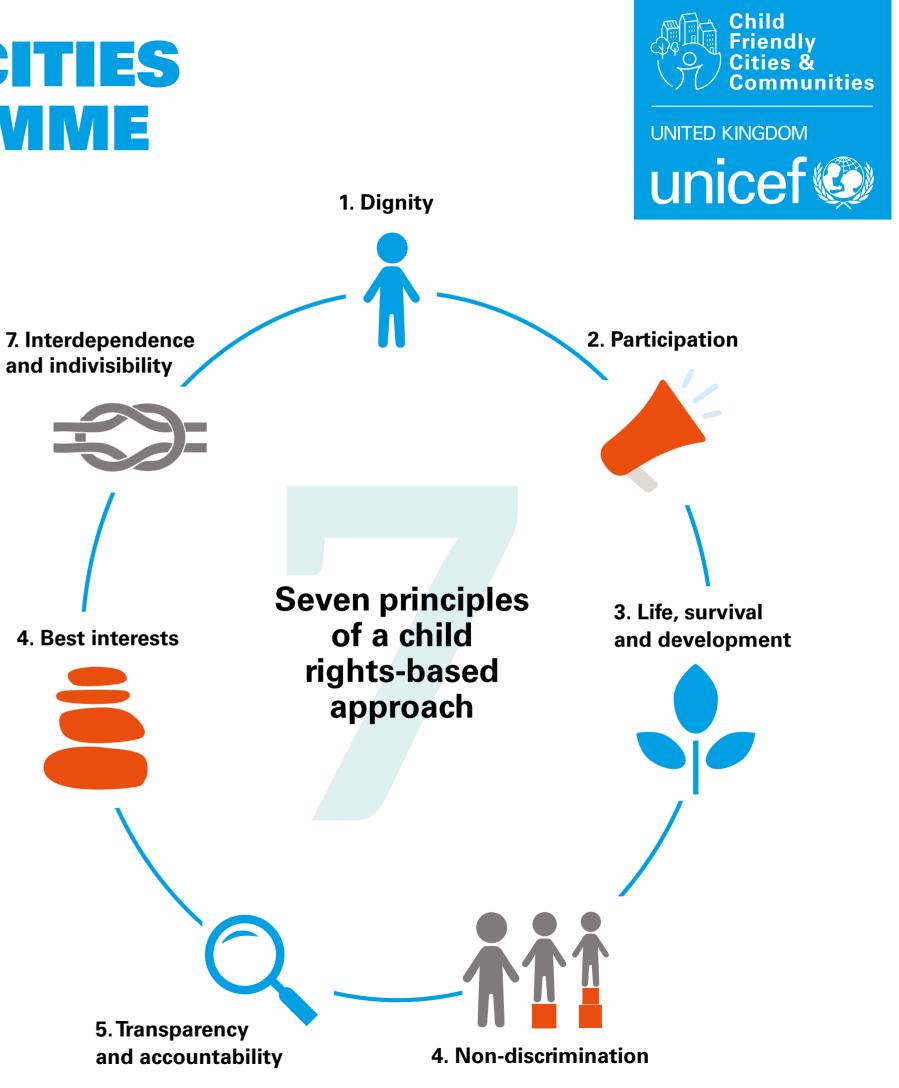
**Child Friendly Cities and Communities** is a collaboration between UNICEF UK, councils, their local partners, and children and young people to advance children's rights. Together, we work on a long-term, strengths-based programme, rooted in local needs and context, to put children's rights into practice.

Children and young people are supported to identify three priority areas to focus on (in addition to three mandatory priority areas) during the highly participatory, three-to-five year programme journey. A child rights-based approach is embedded into decision-making and

service delivery, through an iterative planning and delivery approach that results in a gradual deepening and broadening of impact across a city or community.

Becoming a UNICEF Child Friendly City or Community is a global acknowledgement of the progress achieved by a city or community. Children's rights continue to be advanced after recognition, thanks to the robust networks, relationships and knowledge developed throughout the programme journey.

## and indivisibility



## Badges

There are three mandatory badges and the council chooses an additional three in collaboration with local children and young people.





Communication



Plus three from: Child-friendly Services, Education and Learning, Equal and Included, Family and Belonging, Flourishing, Healthy, Innovation, Participating, Place, Safe and Secure

## ACTIVITIES

Collectively advancing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and embedding a child rights-based approach

Councils and their partners receive training from UNICEF UK on children's rights and how to take a child rights-based approach, on Child Rights Impact Assessments, and on how to meaningfully engage children and young people in local governance and decision-making. Councils are upskilled to continue delivering training beyond the duration of the programme.

UNICEF UK works with councils and partners to train children and young people about their rights.

Councils and their partners receive expert support and guidance from UNICEF UK to transform existing culture into one that upholds and promotes children's rights at every level.

UNICEF UK, councils, and local partners collectively gather evidence and disaggregate data to identify inequalities and address the needs of all children - particularly those vulnerable or at risk of being marginalised.

Councils join UNICEF's national and global community of practice of child-friendly cities and communities which offer mutual support, knowledge exchange, resources sharing and opportunities to make connections.

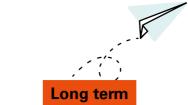


## **OUTPUTS**

**Changes in capacities** 

### OUTCOMES **Changes in practice**

#### Short term Duty bearers: individuals Ť. Duty bearers: individuals Understand a child Know how to embed accessible, meaningful Use the Model and rights-based approach and child-friendly mechanisms for participation language of advocate for its relevance for their work. and youth governance. child rights child rights and a child and a child framework. rights-based rights-based Can ensure a child rights-based approach Know how to uphold equity, approach in all approach. Are accountable inclusion and anti-racism in their to governance and decision making their work. to every child work from a child rights-based is taken. in all matters perspective. affecting them. ( Duty bearers: organisation/system level Understand and value the Understand and value child rights-informed Make decisions that are informed by children and young people, benefits of a child rights-based approaches to monitoring, evidence through participation and youth and evaluation, and the need for approach to every aspect of governance mechanisms that align disaggregated data. their work. with children's evolving capacities child rights lens. and agency. Embed a child rights-based approach to training and evaluation Design and Share power between dutv deliver services. Ensure internal bearers and information and and external children and support that partnerships, young people. are routinely joint planning informed and multi-agency bv a child coordination are rights-based all informed by approach. a child rightsbased approach (e.g. monitoring trends, ioint commissioning and allocating resources). Rights holders: children and young people Rights holders: children and young people Understand how to Access equitable, inclusive and Enjoy their Understand their rights. Understand where anti-racist information, support and take part in local rights in their to find information. decision-making. services that meet their needs. community. support and services. Take part in Hold duty bearers to local decision account when making. their rights are not respected.



Work confidently and sensitively alongside children using practice informed by child rights as a

Protect children from discrimination and harm.

Design and deliver strategies, policies, information, services and support that focus on equity, inclusion and anti-racism through a

Routinely use child rights-informed frameworks and tools across local governance, decision-making, planning, commissioning and delivery of services and support.

Ensure organisational culture supports child rights and a child rights-based approach.

Use a child rights-based approach to gather and evaluate evidence (and disaggregate data) to inform learning, improvement, programmes and policy.

Are active citizens influencing their local community.

# IMPACTS

#### **Changes for children** and young people

Every child and young persor

Feels safe in their community.

Has affordable, accessible play and public spaces.

Enjoys a clean environment.

Enjoys fair, non-discriminatory local services.

Feels welcome, included and a sense of belonging in their community.

> Has affordable, accessible culture and leisure opportunities.

Feels listened to, respected and valued in their community.

#### Goals

Healthy, safe, sustainable, and inclusive cities and communities where children's rights are advanced and every child and young person can flourish.

"Every child will feel free and have the opportunity to do anything, as nothing will be hindering them"

Child in CFC candidate city, UK