

INVITING AN MP INTO YOUR SETTING

UNICEF UK OutRight 2024/25

This year, campaign action 1 provides the option to invite an MP into your setting. We understand that this may be the first time some settings have engaged with local decision makers, so we've created this guidance document with some things to keep in mind.

Timings:

MPs are likely to be busy and will spend a significant amount of time in Westminster – leaving them limited time to tend to their constituents. To increase the chance of an MP attending your event:

- Schedule your event when parliament has 'recess' – a period where MP's have a break (however, these breaks sometimes line up with school holidays, so do double check). You can check [here](#).
- Schedule your event for a Friday afternoon to increase attendance!

Preparation:

Depending on the type of event your setting holds, you may want to provide some material in advance for the MP. If you're holding a Q&A, consider having some pre-submitted questions that you can send to them, or give them a general overview of the topic. Let them know the size of the event, who they can expect to be there (students/parents etc.)

and the format of the event. Provide a key contact who will be running the event.

Communication:

It is likely that you will be communicating with your local MP's diary manager, and they receive many requests a day! It is important to make your event stand out, provide clear and concise information, expectations and timings of the day. You can emphasise how much effort, time and energy will be going into the event, and why it's important that your representative attends! It is also helpful to send a follow up closer to the event, to reconfirm how excited the children are and refresh your event as a priority in their mind!

On the day:

MP's usually attend events with an advisor, (who may be the person you've communicated with prior to the event). MPs are likely to want to take photos of the event, especially if they are new to the role. Please ensure you have the adequate processes in place (safeguarding, data protection, consent) for this.

Let us know:

This year we would love to hear more about the exciting campaigning happening in your settings. If you do meet with an MP, please let us know [here](#).

OUTRIGHT
Speak out on children's rights