

World Children's Day: Live Event

Session 1:

If you couldn't attend the celebration on **20 November 2024**, then this document provides you with an overview of the event, outlining the presentations and providing an example of some of the brilliant topics discussed on the day.

This year's event included thinking about how we can be the best campaigners we can be, inspired by Paddington and our own creative thinking. We were then joined by Tiana, a member of UNICEF UK's Youth Advisory Board and Nancy, a campaigner working on climate change, to talk about their journey in campaigning.

Introduction:

The event opened with a video from UNICEF UK's High Profile Supporter, and champion of the OutRight campaign, Cel Spellman. You can see this video [here](#).

Issy, Youth Campaigns Officer, asked everyone to have a morning warm up and stretch, getting our brains ready for to think about World Children's Day. Then, they asked the children and young people to think about the world that we live in, and to take a second to think about the one change that they would like to see in the world. The children and young people shared these in the event chat via their teachers and youth workers. Issy talked about how important it is to recognise that anyone can be a campaigner, on a variety of topics. They asked the children and young people to think about a 'pledge to themselves', of something they can do to bring themselves joy, because World Children's Day is all about celebrating, and celebrating our wins makes us better campaigners!

Panel discussion:

The panel discussion was held by Misha, our Youth Voice Specialist. She started by asking: **What does being a changemaker mean to you?**

Tiana answered that it can mean so many different things because there is so much change to be made, but that for them, it means taking steps in direction to make the world a better place. Nancy agreed with this and confirmed that anyone can be a changemaker. It doesn't have to be someone with a fancy degree or a fancy job, but someone who sees something that isn't right and wants to make changes.

“Anyone can be a campaigner ... it's someone who see's something isn't right and wants to make changes”

Misha asked, **‘when there are so many things to fix in the world, how do you choose which one to focus on?’**

Tiana said that this can be difficult but said that they like to start with the issues that they know most about, and this can give you a great perspective and insight. This can lead to working on other issues too but is a good way to start. Tiana also said that even getting together with friends to talk about an issue is a way to create change, and that no change is too small. Nancy said that it's always helpful to remember that there are always people working other issues, and we can't fix everything alone.

Misha finished by asking: **‘sometimes making change can feel difficult, especially when things don't go to plan ... what do you do to stay positive as a campaigner?’**

Nancy said that it's important to remember that change can be slow and that she likes to be inspired by other people, who have successfully created change. She also said that knowing when to switch off and find ways to have fun is important, and to do things that make you happy. Tiana finished by adding that knowing change is slow but that you're always working towards something is important, and that wherever and whenever change happens, they are behind it.

Conclusion:

Issy ended the event by thanking everyone for their time today and reminding everyone that OutRight is an important way to amplify the voices of children and young people. We wished everyone Happy World Children's Day and closed the event.