

London Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit funding for Rights Respecting Schools in London



Update April 2025

In February 2024, the Mayor of London's Violence Reduction Unit announced that they would fund membership of UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting Schools Award for all state funded schools in London for a period of four years until March 2028. This is part of the London Inclusion Charter which aims to support young people in education to feel that they are safe, that they belong, and ultimately that they are in a place where they can thrive.

One year on from the start of the funding, we look at what has been achieved.

As of 31st March 2025:

- 625 schools are registered with the Rights Respecting Schools Award, an increase of 84% in the first year of funding.
- 205 schools have achieved either the Silver or Gold Rights Respecting Schools Award, meaning they are embedding children's rights across everything they do.
- 9 Local Authorities (in bold below) have established steering groups to strategically drive a child rights-approach in their schools.
- 101,634 pupils are learning in Silver or Gold Rights Respecting Schools.

"Participation in the Award has had a positive impact on children's learning and wellbeing. Children see themselves as rights respecting global citizens and are advocates for social justice, fairness and children's rights at home and abroad." Wormholt Park Primary School, RRSA Gold 2025, Hammersmith and Fulham

"Respecting the views of children is our driving force. From nursery all the way through, children are encouraged to share their views in a respectful way... The focus on rights has increased student empathy." Eastbury Community School, RRSA Gold 2025, Barking and Dagenham

The VRU has also commissioned Professor Carol Robinson from the University of Strathclyde to conduct research on the impact of UNICEF's Rights Respecting Schools approach in supporting children and young people to develop feelings of inclusion, belonging and safety in London schools.

Local Authority	Number of Schools registered with RRSA	Number of schools who have achieved Silver or Gold
Barking and Dagenham	32	7
Barnet	10	7
Bexley	22	12
Brent	18	10
Bromley	14	2
Camden	31	5
Croydon	23	4
Ealing	26	12
Enfield	16	5
Greenwich	17	3
Hackney	19	6
Hammersmith and Fulham	4	0
Haringey	14	6

Harrow	22	9
Havering	14	1
Hillingdon	12	4
Hounslow	13	3
Islington	15	3
Kensington and Chelsea	2	2
Kingston upon Thames	19	7
Lambeth	29	9
Lewisham	42	12
Merton	24	8
Newham	18	9
Redbridge	29	16
Richmond upon Thames	19	2
Southwark	11	2
Sutton	11	4
Tower Hamlets	29	12
Waltham Forest	30	10
Wandsworth	29	12
Westminster	11	1

Top 8 boroughs for number of schools engaged:

Local Authority	Number of Schools registered with RRSA
Lewisham	42
Barking and Dagenham	32
Camden	31
Waltham Forest	30
Tower Hamlets	29
Wandsworth	29
Redbridge	29
Lambeth	29

Top 6 boroughs for number of schools at Silver or Gold:

Local Authority	Number of schools who have achieved Silver or Gold
Redbridge	16
Bexley	12
Ealing	12
Lewisham	12
Tower Hamlets	12
Wandsworth	12

*Numbers are correct as of 31st March 2025