

Will Quince MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families

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Dear children and young people across the United Kingdom,

I am the Minister for Children and Families and I wanted to let you know that yesterday – the 15 June - the UK Government submitted a report about how we are protecting and promoting your rights as children and young people. I am proud to have taken this job in Government to be a champion for <u>all</u> children. I have enjoyed being able to meet and talk to some of you and I am inspired by the strength and resilience you have shown through these recent difficult times.

It is so important that young people, like you, are protected in all aspects of your lives, regardless of your ethnicity, gender, religion, abilities, or any other characteristics. It is over 30 years since the UK Government signed up to the United Nations treaty - an international agreement which makes sure we properly protect and promote your rights as children and young people. To show how we have done this, we send a report to the United Nations once every five years. In this year's report, we have outlined the support in place to protect your rights and experiences in school, at home, in hospitals, online and during the pandemic.

You are the future of this country, and it is important that every child and young person has a voice which is listened to. I would like to thank all of you that have taken the opportunity to be heard and share your experiences over the past year by completing surveys and taking part in focus groups for the report.

To help make sure you are aware of your rights, and what the Government is doing to protect and promote these, the department has <u>published bite-sized</u> <u>videos</u> to help you understand some of the key topics covered in the report. There is also an <u>illustrated overview of the report</u>, which I hope you enjoy. These will be shared on social media platforms and with your schools, and I encourage you to watch them and share them with your friends.

I look forward to meeting, listening, and learning from as many of you as possible in the future, so you can continue to have your voices heard.

Yours sincerely,

Will Quince MP Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families