

# GET ACTIVE TEACHER GUIDE

## Steps to effective social action

RESOURCE 7

Use this guide together with the *Making it right* poster, Get Active template, Ideas to Get Active and Learn.Think.Act guide as your students take action about rights in their local, national or global communities.

### Before Getting Active

- Extend students' global learning by engaging with them as they learn about child rights.
- Enable students to think critically about the issues they are learning about.

#### 1. Brainstorm possible issues

Engage in reflective activities and discussion so you can discover the child rights issues that have made an impact on the class and how they want to respond.

#### 2. Research the issues

Use this opportunity to embed appropriate research techniques. Encourage students to relate the background causes and issues directly to their possible actions.

### After Getting Active

- Reflect on your experience of social action and consider how you can improve the learning outcomes for future groups.
- Consider how student interests can contribute to a new learning direction.
- Encourage critical thinking about the issues uncovered in the learning.
- Take part in further authentic action.

#### 3. Set goals

For example: How will the class know if their action has been successful? Are there any constraints on what the class can do? Who does the class need to get permission from?

#### 4. Brainstorm, test and evaluate possible actions

Start with as many ideas as students can come up with and trim the list down to three that are achievable. Use an evaluation technique such as SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) and teach decision-making practices.

#### 5. Choose and plan the action and list individual responsibilities

Set an achievable time line with all the tasks required. Ensure all students have ownership of the social action so that it's meaningful to everyone involved. Encourage students to work together and help each other – especially if it's a lot of work.

#### 6. Take action

Keep a record of what happens so you can use this experience to guide the next group of students who want to take action. Take photos and record responses so students have a record of what they achieve.

#### 7. Reflect on the experience and measure the success of the action

How did the action meet teacher and class goals? What would they do differently next time?  
Invite students to celebrate, acknowledge or mark their participation, action and learning in some way.