

## Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment

Published: 12th December 2023

Next Review: December 2024

A Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) gives GMAC Film the opportunity to assess how our work with children and young people align with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), and to promote the knowledge of rights and the wellbeing of children and young people. To ensure the embedding of UNCRC across our organisations practice, staff have all been trained using the Scottish Governments UNCRC training tool.

A CRWIA was instantly deemed as essential, as we work with children and young people from across Scotland, including work with those from multiple areas of deprivation and diverse ethnic backgrounds.

*All of GMAC Film’s projects are bound by access, community, learning and screen activity. We prioritise working with underrepresented groups in order to help build an inclusive and diverse screen sector, and believe that everyone should have access to such opportunities. We offer a range of projects for children and young people that all lead to the development of creative filmmaking skills, and soft skills essential to all works of life. You can find information on the wealth of projects we run here: <https://www.gmacfilm.com/young-people/>*

To complete this CRWIA we have studied the UNCRC and reflected on how we deliver our programmes. The evaluation material collected from young people has been considered throughout, ensuring we understand the impact of our work on their rights and wellbeing. Below we have highlighted key UNRC articles present through our activity, and explained how we support them.

UNRC Articles	How we support them
<p><b>Article 2: Non-Discrimination</b>  <i>The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, sex, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.</i></p>	<p>Diversity and inclusivity is at the heart of all the work GMAC Film does. As an access organisation we ensure that all young people have equal ability to access to the programmes we run.</p>
<p><b>Article 3: Best Interests of the Child</b>  <i>The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.</i></p>	<p>All of our programmes are designed with the children and young people in mind, and we ensure to regularly review and adapt our practice to suit the needs of the children in any particular group.</p>


<p><b><u>Article 12: Respect for the Views of the Child</u></b>  <i>Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.</i></p>	<p>Throughout any project children and young people are offered opportunity to give feedback and input into the activities. This feedback is always considered and valued and directly affects the next steps we take. We ensure to adapt activity to meet the needs of specific groups through active delivery.</p>
<p><b><u>Article 13: Freedom of Expression</u></b>  <i>Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.</i></p>	<p>When developing ideas for creative work young people are encouraged to explore topics/issues that are important to them, and to share opinions. We ensure not to inhibit the opportunity for young people to share, even if the topic is tough to discuss. We ensure to handle this in a way that is respectful to the whole group while still valuing that young persons perspective.</p>
<p><b><u>Article 14: Freedom of thought, belief and religion</u></b>  <i>Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.</i></p>	<p>As an access organisation, our commitment to diversity and inclusivity includes the freedom for children and young people to think and believe whatever they choose, or practice any religion they are part of. We explore the needs of participants on a case by case basis. For example we will allow time out of activity for prayer, and respect any act related to religious value.</p>
<p><b><u>Article 15: Freedom of Association</u></b>  <i>Every child has the right to meet with other children and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.</i></p>	<p>Collaboration is a vital part of filmmaking and therefore any project ran here at GMAC Film. Each activity is an opportunity for children and young people to come together, share ideas and be creative. We actively encourage further collaboration after completion of any project, with young people often continuing to work together to support their independent development of filmmaking skills.</p>

<p><b><u>Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture</u></b>  <i>Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.</i></p>	<p>By taking part in a GMAC Film project, children and young people have the opportunity to relax and play with their peers. They take part in numerous filmmaking activities that include many different art forms including storytelling, photography, music and design. These activity give children and young people a voice through filmmaking.</p>
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This assessment also offers an opportunity for us to review our work and highlight key areas we'd like to develop further. We have highlighted the following three articles we'd like to improve support of and embed in our programmes ahead of the next review.

<b>UNRC Articles</b>	<b>How we look to develop our support</b>
<p><b><u>Article 17: Access to information from the media</u></b>  <i>Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.</i></p>	<p>As a organisation that covers education around all things screen, we have a duty to make sure young people have the skills to read what they see and understand when information could be false. Children and young people should start to understand how to recognise reliable sources, and how opinion can play a role in how information is circulated online.</p>
<p><b><u>Article 30: Children from minority or indigenous groups</u></b>            Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.</p>	<p>Though we are committed to diversity and inclusivity through all our work, there can often be challenges around children and young people using the language of their family. We hope to explore ways in which we can develop tailored workshops to different minority or indigenous groups that simplify topics and create less reliance on language. We would do this in partnership with organisations that work with these groups directly.</p>

<p><b>Article 42: Knowledge of Rights</b> <i>Governments must actively work to make sure children and adults know about the Convention.</i></p>	<p>It is important that children and young people know about the convention and their rights. We will look to include this as part of our programmes in a more active way, integrating discussion into delivery and making children and young people a bigger part of the process for the next CRWIA review.</p>
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<b>CRWIA Declaration &amp; Authorisation</b>	
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David Williams Director	