What's a Commissioner?

Keith Towler is the Children's Commissioner for Wales. Keith's job is to stand up and speak out for children and young people. He works to make sure that children and young people are kept safe and that they know about and can access their rights.

Keith has to consider children's rights and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in all the work that he does. This means that there is a lot of work to do so Keith has a team of people helping him. They work from two offices, one in Swansea and one in Colwyn Bay.

Why do we have a Children's Commissioner in Wales?

Children's organisations in Wales campaigned for a Commissioner for children for over 10 years. Politicians in the National Assembly for Wales were also keen on the idea. They wanted someone who would speak up for children and young people's rights and help to protect them.

In early 2000, Sir Ronald Waterhouse published his report 'Lost in Care' after a long inquiry into child abuse in children's homes in North Wales. He recommended that Wales had a Children's Commissioner to try and stop such things happening again. This speeded up the campaign and legislation was passed by the UK Government in Westminster to create the post and give it the powers needed.

What's the Children's Commissioner for Wales' Super Ambassadors Scheme?

The scheme was set up seven years ago as a way of making sure that children in Primary schools know about the Office of the Children's Commissioner and how to contact him and his team if they should ever need to.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child underpins all of the work of the Children's Commissioner for Wales. The UNCRC is also the central theme of the Super Ambassadors Scheme. Knowledge of the Articles within the convention can provide both teaching staff and children with the basis for discussion and exploration of themes around health and emotional well- being, moral and spiritual development, active citizenship and sustainable development and global citizenship.

The basic principles of the scheme are that two children (usually in year 5 or 6) are elected by pupils to become ambassadors to the current Children's Commissioner Keith Towler. They have three main roles as ambassadors;

1) To raise awareness within the school of the work of the Commissioner and how to contact him
2) To raise awareness of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child within the school
3) To undertake a 'Special Mission' which is set via the Super Ambassadors website once a term.

We currently have 200+ schools from all over Wales signed up to the scheme; at a recent evaluation event in June 2013 teachers involved told us that the positives of being part of the scheme included:

'Role of the Commissioner better described to pupils by pupils'
'Creates opportunity to discuss rights with the rest of the school'
'Pupil Involvement in school improvement'
'Pupils thrive on the responsibility'
'Good links to school council'

We have developed a website www.superambassadors.org.uk and www.llysgenhadongwych.org.uk for pupils and teachers to access for information about the scheme. We aim to make the scheme as accessible to schools as possible, it's free to join and teachers can simply fill in the join form online, we then provide schools with a rights poster and badges for the two elected Super Ambassadors. The scheme is not prescriptive, with this in mind schools are able to engage with the scheme in a way that works for them. A link teacher in each school usually takes responsibility for running an election and supporting the ambassadors to do their jobs

Links to Welsh Network of Healthy School Scheme

Ambassadors Scheme can now be identified and evidenced as an 'action' as part of the Welsh Network of healthy School Schemes. Schools have previously provided evidence of their involvement with the Super Ambassadors Scheme in a variety of ways. As the scheme is pupil led information will have been collected, collated and presented by children with the support of a link teacher. In the past schools have created powerpoint presentations, work books, puppet theatre, classroom displays, photographs, video's. Once they have joined schools have access to their very own Super Ambassadors dashboard within the super Ambassadors Website. They are able to record add 'newsfeed' and descriptions of the pieces of work they are undertaking in school. The special mission element of the scheme enables Ambassadors to have a say on issues/themes which are set by the Children's Commissioner. Information and views gathered via the 'special mission' element of the scheme informs the work of the Children's Commissioner.

The table below illustrates how some of the Articles within the UNCRC can be linked to the 7 healthy schools topics as outlined in the WNHSS Guidance. It's the Ambassadors role to raise awareness of rights within the school environment, all of the rights are interlinked, linking them to themes in this way can help to raise awareness, promote discussion and exploration.

Healthy Schools topics	**Links to Articles within the UNCRC**
Mental and emotional health and Well being	8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 21 ,23 25, 27,29, 36, 39
Food and fitness	13, 15, 24, 27, 31
Personal development and relationships	5, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 28, 29
Substance use and misuse	13, 33, 36
Environment	27, 24,
Safety	19, 20, 21, 25, 36, 39
Hygiene	24, 27, 36

Super Ambassadors Update July 2013

We are looking to expand the scheme in 2013/14. We are 'growing' the scheme strategically and we would like to offer more schools the opportunity to be part of the scheme. We are working with officers from Carmarthen Education and Participation department in order to engage with networks such as the Healthy Schools network in order to raise awareness of the scheme in schools.

If schools are interested in joining the scheme they will need to join via the website. Super Ambassadors along with a link teacher from each school will also be invited to attend a celebration event in May 2014 where they will have the opportunity to meet the Commissioner, his staff team and other Super Ambassadors as well as to share some of the work they have been doing in schools across Wales.

Links to other curriculum areas, schemes and Initiatives

- The Ambassadors Scheme links with many aspects of the key stage 2, PSE Framework
- Ambassadors Scheme can be identified and evidenced as part of the Eco Schools Award
- The Ambassadors Scheme has been identified within the Estyn inspection reports. When referring to the Common Inspection Framework the scheme supports learning experiences within key question 2 that can also impact on children's attainment reported on in quality indicators 1.2 Wellbeing

If a school you are working with a school and would like to know more about the Super Ambassadors scheme, or if a school is interested in registering as a Super Ambassador School then please ask them to visit the website www.superambassadors.org.uk or www.llysgenhadongwych.org.uk and to join for the academic year 2013/2014 from September 2013.

If you have any further questions about the scheme please contact:

sarah.griffith@childcomwales.org.uk or kath.mattingly@childcomwlaes.org.uk

Beth yw Comisiynydd?

Keith Towler yw Comisiynydd Plant Cymru. Gwaith Keith yw sefyll i fyny a chodi llais dros blant a phobl ifanc. Mae'n gweithio i wneud yn siŵr bod plant a phobl ifanc yn cael eu cadw'n ddiogel a'u bod nhw'n gwybod am eu hawliau ac yn gallu eu cyrchu.

Mae rhaid i Keith ystyried hawliau plant a Chonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn yn ei holl waith. Mae hynny'n golygu bod llawer o waith i'w wneud, felly mae gan Keith dîm o bobl sy'n ei helpu. Maen nhw'n gweithio o ddwy swyddfa, un yn Abertawe ac un ym Mae Colwyn.

Pam mae gennym ni Gomisiynydd Plant yng Nghymru?

Bu sefydliadau plant yng Nghymru yn ymgyrchu dros Gomisiynydd plant am dros 10 mlynedd. Roedd gwleidyddion yng Nghynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru hefyd yn frwd ynghylch y syniad. Roedden nhw eisiau rhywun a fyddai'n codi llais dros hawliau plant a phobl ifanc ac yn helpu i'w hamddiffyn.

Yn gynnar yn 2000, cyhoeddodd Syr Ronald Waterhouse ei adroddiad 'Lost in Care' yn dilyn ymchwiliad hir i gam-drin plant mewn cartrefi plant yng Ngogleedd Cymru. Roedd e'n argymell y dylai Cymru gael Comisiynydd Plant i geisio atal pethau o'r fath rhag digwydd eto. Cyflymodd hynny'r ymgyrch, a phasiwyd deddfwriaeth gan Lywodraeth y DU yn San Steffan i greu'r swydd a rhoi iddi'r pwerau angenrheidiol.

Beth yw Cynllun Llysgenhadon Gwych Comisiynydd Plant Cymru?

Cafodd y cynllun ei sefydlu saith mlynedd yn ôl er mwyn sicrhau bod plant mewn ysgolion Cynradd yn gwybod am Swyddfa'r Comisiynydd Plant a sut mae cysylltu ag e a'i dîm os bydd angen hynny arnyn nhw rywdro.

Confensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn yw'r sail ar gyfer holl waith Comisiynydd Plant Cymru. CCUHP hefyd yw thema ganolog Cynllun y Llysgenhadon Gwych. Gall gwybodaeth am Erthyglau'r confensiwn fod yn destun trafod i athrawon a phlant, ac yn gyfle i archwilio themâu sy'n ymwneud â iechyd a lles emosiynol, datblygiad moesol ac ysbrydol, dinasyddiaeth weithredol a datblygu cynaliadwy a dinasyddiaeth fyd-eang.

Egwyddorion sylfaenol y cynllun yw bod dau blentyn (fel arfer o flwyddyn 5 neu 6) yn cael eu hethol gan y disgyblion i fod yn llysgenhadon i Gomisiynydd Plant Cymru ar hyn o bryd, Keith Towler. Mae ganddyn nhw 3 prif rôl fel llysgenhadon;

1) Cynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o fewn yr ysgol o waith y Comisiynydd a sut mae cysylltu ag e
2) Cynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o Gonfensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau'r Plentyn o fewn yr ysgol
3) Cyflawni 'Tasg Arbennig' sy'n cael ei gosod ar wefan y Llysgenhadon Gwych unwaith bob tymor.

Ar hyn o bryd mae 200+ o ysgolion o bob rhan o Gymru wedi ymuno â'r cynllun; mewn digwyddiad gwerthuso diweddar ym mis Mehefin 2013 dywedodd yr athrawon dan sylw wrthyn ni fod y pethau yma'n rhai o fanteision bod yn rhan o'r cynllun:

'Mae'n well bod rôl y Comisiynydd yn cael ei disgrifio i ddisgyblion gan ddisgyblion'
'Mae'n creu cyfle i drafod hawliau gyda gweddill yr ysgol'
'Mae'r disgyblion yn rhan o wella'r ysgol'
'Mae disgyblion yn ffynnu o gael y cyfrifoldeb yma'
'Cysylltiadau da â chyngor yr ysgol'

Rydyn ni wedi datblygu gwefan www.superambassadors.org.uk a www.llysgenhadongwych.org.uk i ddisgyblion ac athrawon fedru cael hyd i wybodaeth am y cynllun. Ein nod yw gwneud y cynllun mor hwylus â phosib i ysgolion, does dim tâl ymuno, a gall athrawon lenwi'r ffurflen ymuno ar-lein. Wedyn byddwn ni'n rhoi poster hawliau i'r ysgol a bathodynnau ar gyfer y ddau Lysgennad Gwych sy'n cael eu hethol. Does dim trefn benodol i'r cynllun, ac felly gall yr ysgolion ymgysylltu â'r cynllun mewn ffordd sy'n gweithio iddyn nhw. Fel arfer, bydd athro cyswllt ym mhob ysgol yn gyfrifol am gynnal etholiad a chefnogi'r llysgenhadon i wneud eu gwaith.

Cysylltiadau â Rhwydwaith Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach Cymru

Mae'r Cynllun Llysgenhadon yn awr yn gallu cael ei nodi a'i ddefnyddio fel tystiolaeth o 'weithredu' fel rhan o Rwydwaith Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach Cymru. Yn y gorffennol mae ysgolion wedi darparu tystiolaeth o'u hymwneud â'r Cynllun Llysgenhadon Gwych mewn amrywiaeth o ffyrdd. Gan fod y cynllun yn cael ei arwain gan y disgyblion, bydd yr wybodaeth wedi cael ei chasglu, ei choladu a'i chyflwyno gan y plant gyda chymorth athro cyswllt. Yn y gorffennol, mae ysgolion wedi creu cyflwyniadau powerpoint, gweithlyfrau, theatr bypedau, arddangosfeydd yn y dosbarth, ffotograffau a fideos. Unwaith byddan nhw wedi ymuno â'r cynllun bydd ysgolion yn gallu cyrchu eu dangosfwrdd Llysgenhadon Gwych eu hunain, ar Wefan y Llysgenhadon Gwych. Maen nhw'n gallu recordio, ychwanegu 'llif newyddion' a rhoi disgrifiadau o'r darnau o waith maen nhw'n eu gwneud yn yr ysgol. Mae elfen tasgau arbennig y cynllun yn galluogi Llysgenhadon i roi barn ar faterion/themâu sy'n cael eu pennu gan y Comisiynydd Plant. Gwybodaeth a safbwyntiau sy'n cael eu casglu trwy elfen 'tasgau arbennig' y cynllun sy'n hysbysu gwaith y Comisiynydd Plant.

Mae'r tabl isod yn dangos sut gall rhai o Erthyglau CCUHP gael eu cysylltu â'r 7 pwnc ysgolion iach a amlinellwyd yng Nghanllawiau Rhwydwaith Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach Cymru (WNHSS). Rôl y Llysgenhadon

yw cynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o hawliau yn amgylchedd yr ysgol, ac mae'r holl hawliau'n gysylltiedig â'i gilydd, felly gall eu cysylltu â themâu fel hyn helpu i gynyddu ymwybyddiaeth, ac annog pobl i'w trafod a'u harchwilio.

Pynciau Ysgolion Iach	**Cyswllt ag Erthyglau yn CCUHP**
Iechyd a lles meddyliol ac emosiynol	8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20 21 ,23 25, 27,29, 36, 39
Bwyd a ffitrwydd	13, 15, 24, 27, 31
Datblygiad personol a pherthnasoedd	5, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 28, 29
Defnyddio a chamddefnyddio sylweddau	13, 33, 36
Amgylchedd	27, 24,
Diogelwch	19, 20, 21, 25, 36, 39
Hylendid	24, 27, 36

Diweddariad ar y Llysgenhadon Gwych – Gorffennaf 2013

Rydyn ni'n awyddus i ehangu'r cynllun yn 2013/14. Rydyn ni'n 'tyfu'r' cynllun yn strategol, ac fe hoffen ni gynnig cyfle i fwy o ysgolion fod yn rhan o'r cynllun. Rydyn ni'n gweithio gyda swyddogion o adran Addysg a Chyfranogiad Caerfyrddin i ymgysylltu â rhwydweithiau fel y rhwydwaith Ysgolion Iach er mwyn cynyddu ymwybyddiaeth o'r cynllun yn yr ysgolion.

Os oes gan ysgolion ddiddordeb mewn ymuno â'r cynllun, bydd angen iddyn nhw ymuno drwy'r wefan. Bydd Llysgenhadon Gwych, ynghyd ag athro cyswllt o bob ysgol, hefyd yn cael gwahoddiad i ddod i ddigwyddiad dathlu ym mis Mai 2014, lle byddan nhw'n cael cyfle i gwrdd â'r Comisiynydd, ei dîm o staff a Llysgenhadon Gwych eraill, yn ogystal â rhannu peth o'r gwaith maen nhw wedi bod yn ei wneud mewn ysgolion ledled Cymru.

Dolenni i feysydd cwricwlwm, cynlluniau a mentrau eraill

- Mae'r Cynllun Llysgenhadon yn cysylltu â llawer agwedd ar Fframwaith ABCh cyfnod allweddol 2
- Gellir nodi'r Cynllun Llysgenhadon a darparu tystiolaeth ohono fel rhan o'r Dyfarniad Eco-ysgolion
- Cyfeiriwyd at y Cynllun Llysgenhadon yn adroddiadau arolygu Estyn. Wrth gyfeirio at y Fframwaith Arolygu Cyffredin mae'r cynllun yn cefnogi profiadau dysgu oddi mewn i gwestiwn allweddol 2 sydd hefyd yn gallu cael effaith ar gyrhaeddiad plant, yr adroddir amdano yn nangosydd ansawdd 1.2 Lles

Os ydych chi'n gweithio mewn ysgol, ac fe hoffech chi wybod mwy am y cynllun Llysgenhadon Gwych, neu os oes gan ysgol ddiddordeb mewn cofrestru fel Ysgol Llysgenhadon Gwych, gofynnwch iddyn nhw ymweld â'r wefan www.superambassadors.org.uk neu www.llysgenhadongwych.org.uk ac ymuno ar gyfer blwyddyn academaidd 2013/2014 o fis Medi 2013.

Os oes gennych ragor o gwestiynau am y cynllun, cysylltwch â: sarah.griffith@complantcymru.org.uk neu kath.mattingly@complantcymru.org.uk