

Rights Respecting School Award

3.5.2019

NHS England Conference:

On Tuesday this week, a small group of Years 5 and 6 children visited the Mercure Hotel in Maidstone to give a presentation about pupil voice and why it is important. The children spent the day before putting together a presentation, considering how being a Rights Respecting School has allowed them to use their voice and the impact that this has had.

The children presented this work in front of an audience containing 200 delegates, including members from NHS England, the charity Headstart Kent and head teachers from other schools. They covered topics including:

- What the UNCRC is
- What it means to be a Rights Respecting School
- How pupil voice links to children's rights
- How they have their voices heard at Leybourne Chase

At the end of the presentation, the children answered questions asked to them by the audience. A particular mention has to go to Jamie, who confidently responded to almost every question that was asked!

Throughout the whole event the children conducted themselves impeccably and spoke with confidence. In recognition of how superbly they spoke, the children received a standing ovation from the audience at the end of their presentation.

This event has been a fantastic opportunity for the children to speak openly about their rights and to recognise the importance and power of using their voices to promote change.





Following the event, I received a few emails from representatives from both Headstart and NHS England, here are their comments:

Hi Miss Carlow,

Thank you all once again for your commitment and the time taken to prepare and present yesterday. The presentation was truly beyond anything we could have hoped for and the messages the children wanted to get across were delivered clearly and with passion. Please thank them all on my behalf, and please see below email from Jane, the Head of East Kent Children's Commissioning Support Team.

Please pass on this message to the primary school

Dear Children

I wanted to say thank you for coming to our children's event yesterday and giving such a brilliant performance. You were absolutely amazing and your passion, confidence and composure was inspiring. You gave such a clear message to the people there about how wonderful children are and why they are so important. You have absolutely done some fantastic work in your school which it was great to hear about.

We feel very grateful that you were able to attend and share your story with us.

Thank you all again

With best wishes

Jane

Jane O'Rourke

Head of East Kent Children's Commissioning Support Team

Congratulations to the 16 children who took part - we are immensely proud of you all!

Miss Carlow 😊