

Young Children's Voices

Practice Standards for Participation

Child voice and child participation is central to Save the Children's work. It is essential to a commitment towards locally-led action and [shifting the power](#) to children and communities.

Save the Children defines participation as having the opportunity to express a view, influence decision-making and achieving change. Children's participation is an informed and willing involvement of all children, particularly those who are marginalised whose voices may often not be heard, and those of different ages and abilities, in any matter concerning them either directly or indirectly. In its participation work, Save the Children follows seven [practice standards](#):

1. An ethical approach: transparency, honesty and accountability
2. Children's participation is relevant and voluntary
3. A child-friendly, enabling environment
4. Equality of opportunity
5. Staff are effective and confident
6. Participation promotes the safety and protection of children
7. Ensuring follow-up and evaluation



For further reading on Save the Children's approach to and work on participation refer to our [Shifting the Power Hub: Child Voice, Participation and Accountability](#).

Save the Children also operates an ethical review process for all activities that generate evidence. [Save the Children's Safeguarded, Ethical and Accountable Data \(SEAD\) process](#) ensures highest ethical standards for work directly undertaken or funded by Save the Children that generates evidence from children or parents.