



tiny

RIGHTS



DETECTIVES

**The UNCRC in Action:
Access to Justice for Babies and Their Caregivers**

Read our Tiny Rights Detectives reports here



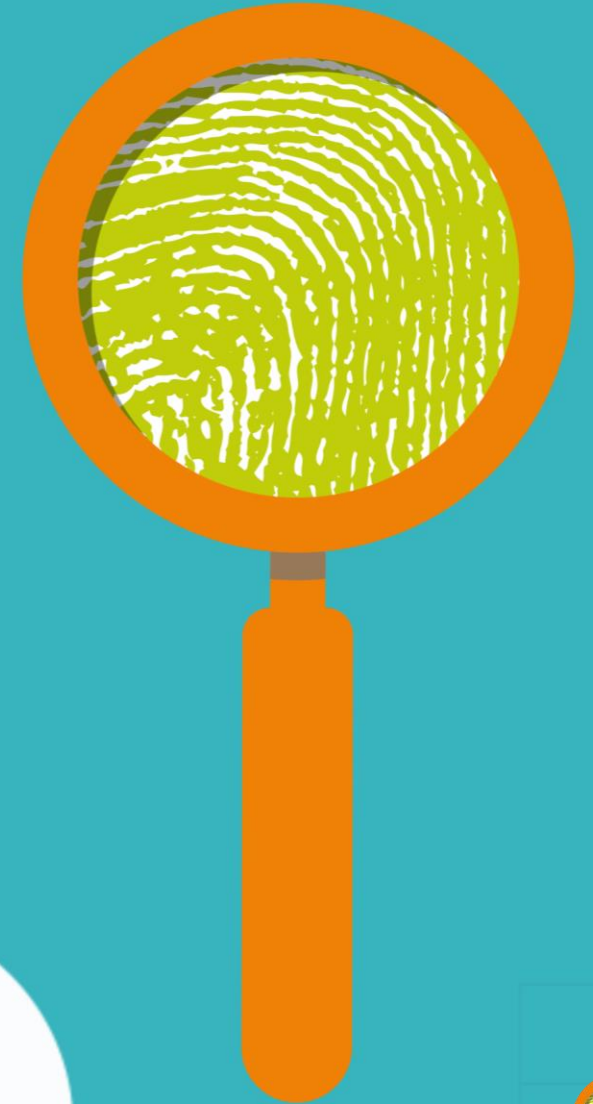
🤔 **What does access to justice mean for babies?**

🔍 **What rights issues affect babies? –** insights from *Tiny Human Rights Detectives* & participants








⚖️ **How do babies & caregivers seek justice? –** legal & non-legal routes

📄 **How can the UNCRC (Scotland) Act help? –** opportunities to strengthen rights

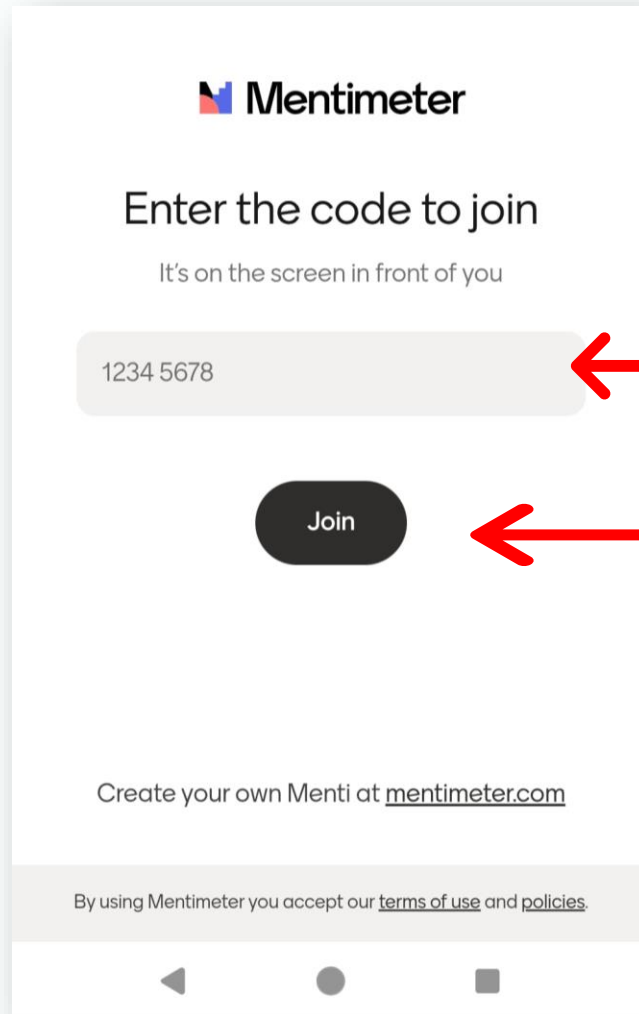
🚀 **What can we do? –** practical actions to make babies' rights real



What rights issues affect babies?

-  **Not being heard** – babies' needs & feelings overlooked
-  **Barriers to healthcare** – long waits, lack of early years services
-  **Unsafe or insecure housing** – affecting health & development
-  **Lack of support for caregivers** – struggling to meet babies' needs
-  **Left out of decisions** – not considered in legal & policy choices
-  **Limited access to play & social spaces** – few baby-friendly areas
-  **No clear ways to challenge unfair treatment** – families struggle to raise concerns

Let's get involved...



Go to www.mentimeter.com on your device









Type in the code – 6538 7522

Click Join

What rights issues affect babies?

[Starcatchers The Right Start conference -
6 March 2025 - Mentimeter](#)










What does 'access to justice' mean for babies?

-  **Being heard** – babies communicate through cries, gestures & behaviour
-  **Caregivers as advocates** – parents & caregivers speaking up
-  **Services that listen** – healthcare & early years settings responding
-  **Safe environments** – ensuring babies feel secure & supported
-  **Fair decisions** – babies considered in legal & policy decisions
-  **Baby-friendly spaces** – inclusive services, nurseries & play areas
-  **Practical justice** – securing healthcare, keeping services open
-  **Overcoming barriers** – accessing healthcare, childcare & support
-  **Legal protections** – how the UNCRC Act 2024 strengthens rights

How can the UNCRC help?

-  **Best Interests (Article 3)** – Prioritising babies in all decisions, including housing, legal, and service delivery.
-  **Raising Concerns (Article 4)** – Ensuring parents and caregivers can challenge decisions and access remedies.
-  **Supporting Parents and Caregivers (Article 5)** – Empowering parents and caregivers to advocate for their baby's rights.
-  **Being Heard (Article 12)** – Recognising babies' communication through behaviour and interactions.
-  **Safe & Nurturing Environments (Article 19)** – Protecting babies from harm and ensuring family support.
-  **Rights-Based Early Years Services (Article 18)** – Strengthening family support, childcare, and parenting help.
-  **Access to Healthcare (Article 24)** – Removing barriers to early years health services.

How can UNCRC (Incorporation)(Scotland) Act 2024 help?

-  Public authorities must **act compatibly** with the UNCRC
-  Ministers must **assess how laws & policies** impact babies' rights
-  The **Children's Scheme** strengthens participation & accountability
-  **Scrutiny** by the Children's Commissioner, Parliament & civil society
-  Rights breaches can be **challenged in the courts**
-  **No time limits** on complaints until age 18
-  **Courts can decide** if laws & decisions uphold the UNCRC
-  The **Children's Commissioner** can support complaints
-  **Courts can order public bodies** to uphold babies' rights

Key actions, takeaways & closing

- 💡 What is one change you can make in your work to strengthen access to justice for babies?
- 🏛️ How can you use the UNCRC (Scotland) Act to improve babies' rights?
- 🧠 What barriers stop babies and their caregivers from seeking justice – and how can we remove them?
- 🤝 Who else needs to be involved to make change happen?
- 🚀 What's one key takeaway from today that you'll share with others?

Read our Tiny Rights Detectives reports here



Read our Tiny Rights Detectives reports here



Full report



Child-friendly report



tiny

RIGHTS



DETECTIVES

**The UNCRC in Action:
Access to Justice for Babies and Their Caregivers**