Key Players [graphic - a table with each player and a speech bubble for the corresponding text below]

The United Nations Committee: There are 18 of us; we are all children's rights experts. It's our job to check that governments around the world are respecting and protecting children's rights.

The Government: When we signed the CRC we made a promise to respect and protect children's rights. It's our responsibility to make sure this happens in our country.

Children and Young People: The CRC is about our rights, so it's important our voice is heard by the Committee when they are deciding whether the government is respecting and protecting our rights.

NGO's

We are non-governmental organisations (NGO's), charities and other groups that are independent from the government. We tell the Committee how well we think the government has been doing at respecting and protecting children's rights.

Children's Commissioners: We are independent officials and it's our job to promote and protect children's rights. We have an important role in making sure the voice of children is heard by the Committee.

Equality and Human Rights Commission: We are independent part of the government and we have an important role in checking that the government is respecting and protecting children's rights. [End graphic]

The Committee

The CRC Committee checks the Government is fulfilling the promise it made to respect and protect children's rights by looking at a report submitted by the Government, and hearing from people who know a lot about children's rights, including young people themselves. Check out our CRC COMMITTEE resource for more info.

The Government

Every 5 years the Government must send a report to the Committee to tell them what they have done to make sure children's rights are respected and protected. The Governments in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are also part of the UK report and have to tell the Committee what they what they have been doing to protect children's rights in their countries.

Children and Young People

Children and young people should be the most significant voice in the CRC process, because it is about your rights. It is important you can share your views about how well you think the government has been doing, and what they can do better to respect and protect children's rights.

NGO's

Non-governmental organisations (NGO's) like charities and community groups write alternative reports to tell the Committee what they think. These groups can share children and young people's views with the Committee. Some also run activities to support young people to share their views directly with the Committee.

Children's Commissioner

The Children's Commissioners are independent from the Government, and has an important role in helping protect children's rights. There are Commissioners for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. They help ensure children's voices are heard by the Committee, in particular young people who are experiencing challenges or difficulties. This could be children in care, or those living away from home.

Equality and Human Rights Commission

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) is an independent part of the Government which monitors and promotes human rights in Great Britain. Their job is to check the government is fulfilling its promises to protect everyone's human rights, including children. The EHRC also sends a report to the Committee.