

Dear Parent/Carer

Discuss what it means to be a 'good citizen' in the local community. How important is it to respect other people? How do we show this?

Does your child understand what is happening at the moment? Talk about the way the current situation affects your family and neighbours. Are you able to help other people?

Topic 1

**Good citizens
in the local
community**
10 - 11 years

Now over to your child
to choose what
to do

DISCUSS YOUR COMMUNITY

Talk to your parents about the community where you live. What is the best thing about living there? Are there any drawbacks? Do you feel you belong? Do people show an interest in each other and in what is going on?



TOWN GUIDE

Make a booklet for someone coming to live in your area. Include information about:

- the doctor
- the post office
- places of worship
- the library
- schools
- recycling
- shops
- cinema.

LOCAL
ANSWERS

THE GOLDEN AWARD

Who are the good citizens who give up their time to run sports and activities for young people? Is there anyone you think deserves special recognition for their hard work? Who would you like to thank?

What is a "GOOD CITIZEN" in the local community?



Collect views from people of different ages on what makes a good citizen. Record the results of your survey. There is an example of how to do this on the next page.

Are you a "GOOD CITIZEN" in the local community?

Score yourself on these points 1 - 5;
(1 - not very good, 5 - very good)

A good citizen:

- Thinks about the effects of their behaviour on others.
- Cares about other people.
- Tries to help other people.
- Takes care of their surroundings, e.g. never drops litter.
- Keeps rules and regulations.

EASY!



An example of how you could record the results of your survey.

'GOOD CITIZENS' SURVEY RESULTS



Dear Parent/Carer

Talk with your child about the ways in which people help others in your community.

- Is your community mixed ages?
- What are the needs of each age group?
- How are their needs met in the community?

Do you know people who do voluntary work in your community? What do they do?

Topic 2

Local action

10 - 11 years

Now over to your child to choose what to do

WHAT'S NEW?

With your parents, listen to local radio news, or look at your local paper, and look out for reports of people doing things in the community to help others.

Are there any issues or problems in your community, e.g. litter, access, noise, traffic, parking, lack of leisure facilities, etc? If so, talk with your parents and other adults about what could be done to improve the situation.

Who will take action?

CARING FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Are you aware of the state of the road verges, gutters and other public spaces in your area? Are there any problems? How can these be tackled? Discuss this with your family and friends.
- Where are the litterbins on your daily exercise. Are they used? If not, what would encourage people to use them?



Think of an area of your school or neighbourhood which could be made more attractive, How would you do this?

Think WHEELCHAIR ...

Do public buildings and facilities in your neighbourhood have special ramps for wheelchair-users?

Next time you go out, imagine you cannot climb steps. Can you get to where you want to go? Is there anywhere a person using a wheelchair or with mobility problems cannot go? What are the obstacles?



Dear Parent/Carer

We know that in a good society people must act as good citizens and they must also accept laws.

- Does your child know what democracy means?
- Do they know the difference between national and local government?

Ask your child to tell you what they know about the way local councillors and politicians are elected.

Topic 3

How we are governed
10 - 11 years

Now over to your child to choose what to do



DESERT ISLAND CASTAWAY

Imagine you are a castaway on a desert island with about 100 other children. You have been voted their leader or prime minister. Discuss with your family what laws and rules you would make.

Burning Issues

- Are there any issues you and your family feel strongly about? Do you know any local councillors that you could raise your concerns with?
- If you were a politician, what laws would you introduce, and why?
- Who would benefit?



FIND OUT ABOUT VOTING

Ask your parents what they have to do when they go to vote.

Which party will they vote for and why?

EASY!



VISIT PARLIAMENT ONLINE!

- Do you know the name of your local MP?
- What are the main UK political parties?
- What do they stand for?
- Who are their leaders?

Find out about parliament and where the UK laws are made at www.parliament.uk



Dear Parent/Carer

Let's think about the consequences of anti-social behaviour for both victims and offenders, and the families involved. Previously we talked about respecting other people and their property.

Talk about why people commit crimes. What would you do if you saw something wrong happening? How can we ourselves help to prevent crime?

Topic 4

Keeping
the law

10 - 11 years

Now over to your child
to choose what
to do

CRACKING CRIME



How much crime is there in your area? Where would you find this out? What sorts of crime are there? Talk about the feelings of the victims.

THE RULE OF LAW

What rules and laws do you and your family have to obey?

With members of your family, make a list of all the rules and laws that apply to you, from rules for using the local swimming pool, library, etc. to laws about road use, violence, theft, etc.

What happens if you break the rules on your list?



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Do you and your neighbours look out for each other and notice what is going on in your street? Do you have an official scheme?



If not, find out what the residents need to do to set one up.

REDUCING RISK

There are ways you can lower the risk of being robbed or attacked.



Use the next page to check you are keeping safe on the streets.



EASY!



Link the safety messages with the actions.

 = Safety message
 = Action

Keep with
your friends

Tell someone
where you're going,
how you're getting
there and how long
you'll be.

Don't show off
valuable things.

Always make sure
someone knows where
you are.

Stay alert to what's
going on around you.

Shout or scream loudly
and run away.

Don't wear
headphones
when out walking
or jogging.

Keep your
mobile phone
out of sight.

If attacked, don't try
to defend yourself.

Don't go down dark
alleys or streets.

Stick to bright,
well-lit, busy
streets.

Don't go out alone
at dusk or in the dark