



**start  
strong**  
Advancing Children's  
Early Care & Education

## Local and European Elections 2014: Supporting Children Locally and in Europe

At local and European levels, there's a lot that our elected representatives can do to give children the best start in life.

### We're asking Local and European candidates 3 key questions:

#### Local

**1 Will you put young children at the centre of decisions?**

As a Local Councillor, you have the power to pass a Council resolution stating that in its work the Council will seek to place young children at the centre of their decisions.

**2 Will you support child's play?**

All families and all early years services should have easy and safe access to outside play areas, including playgrounds and green spaces. You can make this happen.

**3 Will you join the dots?**

Local services are often disjointed and don't work together – will you make sure they do work together in your area in the interests of children?

#### European

**1 Will you support investment in children?**

As a Member of the European Parliament you can support the implementation of the European Commission's Recommendation 'Investing in Children: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage', which aims to tackle child poverty through improving families' incomes and access to affordable, high quality services.

**2 Will you ensure EU funds benefit children?**

As a Member of the European Parliament you can ensure that EU funds benefit young children through supporting access to high quality early years care and education.

**3 Will you speak up for children?**

You can become a 'Child Rights Champion' and ensure the rights of all children around the world are respected and fulfilled. Read the manifesto and sign up:

[www.childrightsmanifesto.eu](http://www.childrightsmanifesto.eu)

High quality care and education in the early years allows children to start strong, giving them solid foundations upon which they can build their lives. Children do not have a second chance – there is only one childhood.



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