



EU Children's Participation Platform

THE LUNDY MODEL OF CHILD PARTICIPATION #EUChildParticipation

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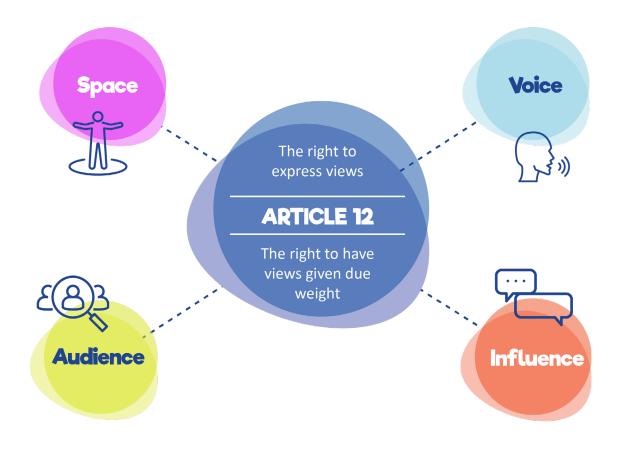
The Lundy model of child participation

This model was developed by academic **Laura Lundy**, Professor of international children's rights at the School of Education at the Queen's University of Belfast.¹¹ Her model, detailed in a 2007 publication in the British Educational Journal, provides a way of conceptualising a child's right to participation, as laid down in Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.² It is intended to focus decision-makers on the distinct, albeit interrelated, elements of the provision.

The four elements have a rational chronological order: **space**, **voice**, **audience**, **influence**.

The Lundy Model of Participation was prominently featured and endorsed by the Irish Department of Children and Youth Affairs in their recent National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making (2015 – 2020).

Figure 1 Lundy's Model of Participation as included in Ireland's National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020³



2 Laura, Lundy (2007) ""Voice" is not enough: conceptualising Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child", British Educational Research Journal, 33:6, 927-942, available at: <u>http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01411920701657033</u>

Ireland Department of Children and Youth Affairs, National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020 (17 June 2015), p. 21.
Accessible here: https://assets.gov.ie/24462/48a6f98a921446ad85829585389e57de.pdf

^{1 &}lt;u>https://pure.qub.ac.uk/en/persons/laura-lundy</u>

The Lundy Voice Model Checklist for Participation

Moreover, for Ireland's National Strategy, Professor Laura Lundy (in consultation with a sub-group) developed a checklist on participation.⁴ The Strategy details that "this checklist aims to help organisations, working with and for children and young people, to comply with Article 12 of the UNCRC and ensure that children have the space to express their views; their voice is enabled; they have an audience for their views; and their views will have influence".5

Figure 2 Lundy's Voice Model Checklist for Participation as included in Ireland's National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020⁶



How: Provide a safe and inclusive space for children to express their views

- Have steps been taken to
- can take part?

Audience

How:Ensure that children's views are communicated to someone with the responsibility to listen

- Is there a process for communicating children's views?
- Do children know their views are being communicated to?
- Does that person / body have the power to make decisions?

Voice

How: Provide appropriate information and facilitate the expression of children's views

- Have children been given the information they need to form a view?
- Do children know that they do not have to take part?
- Have children been given a range of options as to how they might choose to express themselves?

Influence

How: Ensure that children's views are taken seriously and acted upon, where appropriate



More information on the model and the checklist can be found in Laura Lundy's publication on child participation.

- Ireland Department of Children and Youth Affairs, National Strategy on Children and Young People's 4 Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020 (17 June 2015), p. 22.
- Accessible here: https://assets.gov.ie/24462/48a6f98a921446ad85829585389e57de.pdf
- 5 Ireland Department of Children and Youth Affairs, National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020 (17 June 2015), p. 22. Accessible here: https://assets.gov.ie/24462/48a6f98a921446ad85829585389e57de.pdf
- 6 Ireland Department of Children and Youth Affairs, National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making 2015-2020 (17 June 2015), p. 21. Accessible here: https://assets.gov.ie/24462/48a6f98a921446ad85829585389e57de.pdf