



## International Day of the Girl Child, October 11th 2020

October 11th marks the observance of the International Day of the Girl Child. Led by the UN and UN based organisations (UN Women and UNICEF) It is a particularly important day for all members of the Loreto community, as we follow in the footsteps of Mary Ward to ensure a better and more equal world for young women. Below are some resources suitable for adults, secondary students and primary students that educate on this annual day, commemorative events, and information and challenges faced by young women globally. 2020 also marks 25 years since the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was signed, a cornerstone declaration set out to work towards equality for women.

Teachers

Primary students

Secondary students

### United Nations

*Resolution*

Teachers Secondary students

This is the resolution that establishes the inauguration of the Day of the Girl Child, signed 19 December 2011

<http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/170>

*International Day of the Girl Child*

Teachers Secondary students

Information about the UN priorities for the International Day of the Girl Child can be found here, including relevant documents, other observed days and media links

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/girl-child-day>

*Working Group on Girls*

Teachers

This is a working group for United Nations NGOs (IBVM/CJ at the UN are a part of it!) working to improve the lives of girls globally.

<https://girlsrights.org/>

*UNFPA - How Changing Social Norms is Crucial in Achieving Gender Equality Report*

Teachers Primary students (some case studies) Secondary students

This report is on the lengthier side, but it has some fantastic case studies that can be shared with students about the experiences of young women and girls. It is a fantastic report about how important it is to work towards shifting social norms when striving for equality.

[https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/WEB-UNFPASocial\\_Norms.pdf](https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/WEB-UNFPASocial_Norms.pdf)

### **UN Women and UNICEF**

UN Women and UNICEF are both core organisations within the UN focusing on the International Day of the Girl Child. For UN Women in particular, this year marks 25 years since the Beijing Declaration on Women was signed, and they are commemorating this through the campaign 'Generation Equality'.

*Beijing Declaration*

Teachers Secondary students (an important milestone to be aware of)

This is the official Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action on Women. The resource is long, but it is helpful to look for how often (or how little) girls are mentioned on their own, and in reference to the unique challenges they face.

[https://www.un.org/en/events/pastevents/pdfs/Beijing\\_Declaration\\_and\\_Platform\\_for\\_Action.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/events/pastevents/pdfs/Beijing_Declaration_and_Platform_for_Action.pdf)

*Introductory Video*

Primary students Secondary students

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyCj6g0vOxA>

*Background information (including on Generation Equality)*

Secondary students

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child#social>

*A New Era for Girls- Report*

Teachers Secondary students (figures)

This report looks at the experiences of girls and how they have changed over the last 25 years, since the Beijing Declaration was signed. There are some fantastic figures in this report that may be a good resource to show students.

<https://www.unicef.org/media/65586/file/A-new-era-for-girls-2020.pdf>

*Five Actions for Gender Equality - Report*

Teachers Secondary students

A simple and accessible report outlining five actions to take in order to accelerate gender equality.

<https://www.unicef.org/rosa/media/6206/file/Five%20Actions%20for%20Gender%20Equality%20in%20the%20COVID-19%20Response.pdf>

### *Period Poverty Infographic*

Primary students Secondary students

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/2019/10/infographic-periods>

### *UN Women Social Media Links*

Primary students Secondary students

<https://www.instagram.com/unwomen/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyCj6g0vOxA>

## **Plan International**

Plan International is an organisation focusing on the rights of young women and girls.

### *Video and Background information*

Primary students Secondary students

<https://plan-international.org/international-day-of-the-girl>

### *Publications*

Teachers Secondary students

They have many great reports on their website, which focuses on the challenges faced by young women and girls due to COVID, education inequality, violence and more.

<https://www.plan.org.au/publications/>

### *A Better Normal - Youth-led report by Plan International*

Teachers Primary students (some great figures and statistics) Secondary students

Recently, Plan International released a report titled "A Better Normal". This is a wonderful report with research and development of the report led by a team of young women aged 16-24.

<https://www.plan.org.au/publications/a-better-normal-girls-call-for-a-revolutionary-reset/>

## **Day of the Girl Summit**

A summit to bring together organisations from all over the world to work together for Day of the Girl. While the summit is usually held in person, this year there are a number of ways to be involved online.

### *11 Days of Action- Social Media*

Primary students Secondary students

Each day, a different UN NGO will be posting content on the Day of the Girl, in the 11 days of lead up to October 11.

@IDG\_Summit (Twitter and Instagram)

Hashtags: #BeBold #EquityForGirls #IDGSummit2020 #DayoftheGirl

<https://dayofthegirlsummit.org/11-days-of-action-2016/11-days-of-action-2017/day-11-day-of-the-girl/>

### *Girls Speak Out*

Primary students Secondary students

An online screening of worldwide submissions from girls, followed by an opportunity to join the subsequent online conversation about girls equality.

<https://dayofthegirlsummit.org/11-days-of-action-2016/11-days-of-action-2017/day-11-day-of-the-girl/>

### **MWIA and Loreto**

Teachers Primary students Secondary students

The Day of the Girl gives the Loreto community an opportunity to think about the global projects that we support that focus on young women and girls. See all projects here:

[https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/MWA\\_Global-Projects-2018\\_V10.pdf](https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/MWA_Global-Projects-2018_V10.pdf)

### *FGM - Kenya*

This project focuses on the elimination of Female Genital Mutilation in young women, as well as their freedom from stigma and discrimination

[https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/MWIA\\_Global-Projects-2020\\_Termination-of-FGM.pdf](https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/MWIA_Global-Projects-2020_Termination-of-FGM.pdf)

### *India*

All projects in India have a focus on young women and girls, particularly the Ethical Enterprises project and the Brickfields school

<https://www.mwia.org.au/projects/india/>

### *ACRATH - Australia*

This project is working alongside the AUstralian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking In Humans to help work towards preventing child marriage and human trafficking, particularly of young women and girls

[https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/MWIA\\_Global-Projects-2020\\_ACRATH.pdf](https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/MWIA_Global-Projects-2020_ACRATH.pdf)

### *Peru*

This project works to support women to develop and establish their own tailoring business.

[https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/MWA\\_Global-Projects-2020\\_PERU-Tailoring.pdf](https://www.mwia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/MWA_Global-Projects-2020_PERU-Tailoring.pdf)