

WHAT MATTERS TO ME?

Instructions for teachers:

- Share the 'things that matter to me' poster with the children, which features all the headings from the First News Children's Party manifesto.
- Discuss each heading, collecting children's ideas about what each one means, and what they think could be changed to make things better. Add their ideas to the poster on the IWB.
- Ask children to choose one of the headings – or, if they prefer, another issue that is important to them (e.g. animal welfare).
- Give each pupil a copy of the 'things that matter to me' planning sheet, and encourage them to complete it with their ideas in note form.
- Ask the children to use their planning sheet to compose a short speech (200–500 words), using persuasive writing techniques to convince listeners of the importance of their chosen issue.
- In pairs, children can read their speeches to each other, feeding back possible improvements.
- When they are happy, children could copy their speeches onto the themed paper provided, adding colour if time and resources allow, to be turned into a striking wall display.

