

Getting It Right for Every Child

Information for Parents and Carers

Getting It Right for Every Child, known as GIRFEC, is the Scotland-wide approach that looks to support and safeguard children's wellbeing.

GIRFEC provides professionals and agencies with a consistent approach to assessing and planning for children's wellbeing. It aims to put the child at the centre of the process and to work closely with families. There might be a time when several different agencies are required to properly support you and your child and GIRFEC provides a framework for coordination and appropriate information sharing.

Eight Wellbeing Indicators

GIRFEC uses eight wellbeing indicators to assess the wellbeing of a child. These wellbeing indicators are – Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included. There are no specified levels in these areas that your child has to reach but professionals will use the indicators to assess if there are any challenges for your child. People working with your children will then focus on these areas to deliver a positive difference with the child at the centre.



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Named Person

All children and parents in Scotland have access to a Named Person to help them, if they wish. The Named Person for a child is usually the health visitor prior to the child being of school age and then it becomes a senior teacher within their school. Children and parents are under no obligation to accept or act on the advice from a Named Person.

Child's Plan

Under GIRFEC, children who require additional support in order to ensure and improve their wellbeing might require a Child's Plan. A Child's Plan is a document that contains information about a child, such as important people in their life as well as recording the factors that are affecting their wellbeing and an action plan with which these might be addressed. The plan is created with the child and parents or carers, alongside any professionals working with the child. The child and parents will be kept up-to-date with any information that is being shared with other professionals and why that information is being shared, unless there is a particular concern for safety. A Lead Professional is appointed. This is a person who is considered to have the correct expertise to ensure that the actions from the plan are implemented. In most cases, a member of staff from a child's school is the Lead Professional.

For the most up-to-date information, check out www.gov.scot.

