



GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD NEWSLETTER – Second Issue

July 2016

The GIRFEC approach puts the child and their needs at the centre of everything we do. How we work to their best interests to ensure they have the best start for their future.

Universal Services (Health and Education services) and Communities (friends, family and the third sector) play a vital role in identifying the wellbeing needs of a child and identifying families that are struggling to cope. Universal services are services that every child is entitled to. These services spend the most time with the families, children and young people and know them well.

In Glasgow, we have been working for some time to improve joint working with our partners, to develop a way of working; where children, young people, families and practitioners feel: safe, respected and valued.

We continue to improve our approach, where the child is at the centre of everything we do, where we speak the same language about the needs of a child, where child, families and practitioners understand that we are committed to improve the lives of Glasgow children and young people. Where we can share information quickly and effectively where it is in the best interests of children.

DEVELOPMENT OF A TRAINING FRAMEWORK FOR STAFF

The training for staff will be delivered by single agencies where staff needs have been identified and tailor made training has been developed to meet these needs.

Multiagency training will be delivered to ensure that across all partners working with children and with families in the city there is clear understanding of the approach, what wellbeing means and the systems and processes in place to improve decision making and communication.

The training will include the use of *Wellbeing Indicators* both to identify concern and to assist in planning; using the *My World Triangle* to identify strengths and pressures on the child and family; using the *Resilience Matrix* to analyse information gathered, and producing a Child's Plan.





As stated in the February newsletter, the approach we are taking in Glasgow, is to build on the good practice and joint working to further implement the Getting It Right for Children (GIRFEC) approach and meet the statutory duties of the Children and Young Person (Scotland) Act 2014.

The GIRFEC Board have agreed we will build on the existing processes for the early identification of children and families who require advice, information and assistance to improve the wellbeing and development of children and young people. We will enhance the existing:

- Early Years Joint Support Teams (EYJST) There are nine EYJST across the city that meet on a regular bases to discuss the needs of pre-school aged children. An EYJST enables concerns of a child to be discussed with other agencies who can offer the type of input that will improve outcomes for children and families.
- Learning Community Joint Support Teams (LCJST) identify school aged children who require assistance or support.

We have developed a process for **Request for Assistance** which will be used should there be a dispute between services about the child's needs. However, it is envisaged that any disputes will be rare and resolved at service manager level.

We have updated the **GIRFEC Website**, where you will find more information about the role of the Named Person and Lead Professional.

Education services and Police Scotland are piloting a process that allows the Police to send information to the Named Person in Education. This pilot is taking place in all Secondary schools and selected Primary and ASL schools in Glagsow.

We are currently working to:

- Develop staff guidance on the use of the EYJST and LCJST for the Named Person.
- Update the existing GIRFEC Practice Guidance to include the processes and systems as these are enhanced and refined to need the requirements of a Named Person.
- provide multi-agency training for staff across services, including the Third Sector.
- Education services have developed one **co-ordinating hub** for e-mail enquiries and referrals to the Named Person.
- Health services will develop one co-ordinating Hub for telephone and e-mail enquiries and referrals to the Named Person.
- Improve the process for Police Scotland to send relevant information to Education Services and Health Services.
- Develop a process to allow a Named Person to handover the responsibility to another Named Person. As these improvements evolve we will update the GIRFEC Website to notify staff, children, young people and parents/carers.

