

getting it right

For Every Child in Argyll & Bute

Getting It Right For Every Child, sometimes referred to as GIRFEC, is a Scottish Government programme. It makes sure children and young people get the right help at the right time from the services they need. It ensures Health, Education, Social Work and Police Scotland work together closely to do this.

Parents work hard to get things right for their children, but there are times when every family needs advice and support to help solve problems or deal with challenges. The GIRFEC approach helps families to do this. It makes sure children and young people are put first. It places them at the centre of things and involves them in planning for their own needs.

Every effort is being made to get it right for our children and young people across Argyll and Bute. Taking care of their well-being, even before they are born, helps ensure they have the opportunity to be successful in later life.



How does GIRFEC work?

The GIRFEC approach provides every child with a Named Person from birth to 18 years of age.

For the child or young person this means that they and their family have a contact who can work with them to sort out any further help, advice or support they might need.

For Parents and Carers this means someone to talk to if you are worried about any aspect of your child's wellbeing. That might be concerns about bullying, how they are coping with homework or something that's changed at home.

In some cases the Named Person may need to bring in additional help and support - they will always involve you and your child in any discussion and planning. The Named Person may raise concerns of their own too. In either case it is the Named Person's responsibility to take the action needed to arrange for the right help to be put in place.



The GIRFEC planning process

Any child who needs additional support will have a Universal Child's Plan, sometimes referred to as a UCP. This is a document that uses specific tools to consider important information about a child or young person. The UCP records long and short term outcomes as well as actions that need to be carried out to make these outcomes happen. This means help or support is co-ordinated and everyone is clear about who is doing what.

The Universal Child's Plan is the document used by every service involved in planning support for children and young people. The information that goes into a Universal Child's Plan is agreed at a Child's Plan meeting in which parents and children must be included.

A Lead Professional is appointed when two or more services have to work together. The Lead Professional co-ordinates a network of support around your child which must include you and your child. The Lead Professional is the person best placed to take on the role. This will be agreed by everyone involved, including you and your child.

The Lead Professional will be:

- ☒ The single point of contact for you, your child and all services at a multi agency level.
- ☒ Working closely with the Named Person.
- ☒ Co-ordinator of the Universal Child's Plan at the multi agency level.
- ☒ Responsible for ensuring changes to your child's plan are agreed and what needs to be done is done.

The Lead Professional is there to make sure:

- ☒ You and your child are involved throughout the planning process.
- ☒ Your input and views are considered and recorded.
- ☒ Your child's input and views are considered and recorded.



www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

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Our work puts your child at the centre of what needs to be done

When we make decisions about your child, we will always find out what they think and record it in the way best suited to their age and needs.

Our work takes account of your child's immediate and longer term needs

From the moment we know your child may need support, we will always consider every aspect of their life to help offer short and long term help.

Our work ensures that all Argyll and Bute's children and young people are safe

We will only share information when it is necessary and where it is important to make sure your child is supported and helped to stay safe. Every organisation has a Child Protection Officer who can give you further information.

Our work helps your child to reach their full potential and achieve at the right level

We will respect your child and your family and work creatively to build on strengths. We will not discriminate against any child and will always work to the highest standard.

Our work focuses on finding solutions

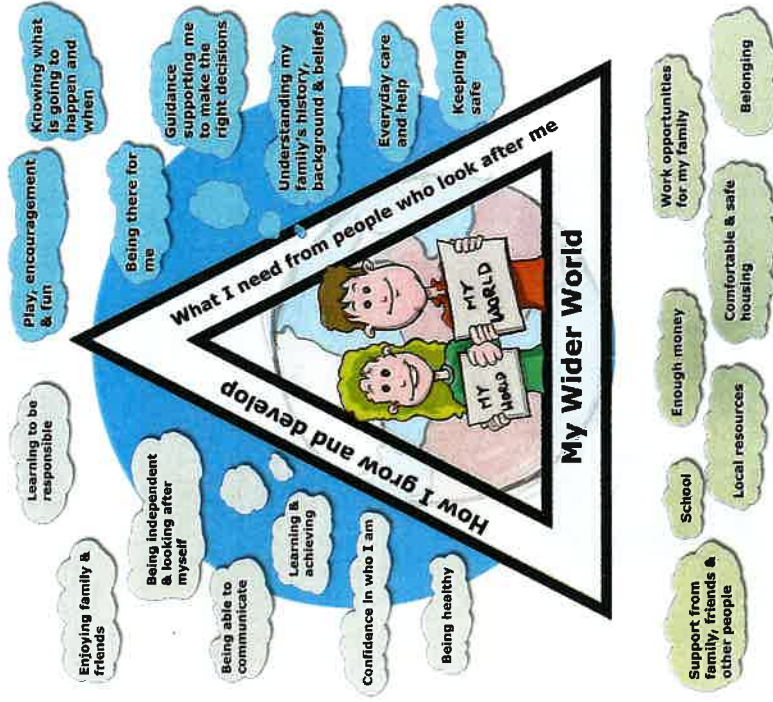
We will always aim to help you find solutions and focus on this in all of the work we do and when we meet and work together.

Our work helps to build a team around your child

Lead Professionals will co-ordinate a team of people to meet your child's needs. We will work to one plan to ensure your child gets the right help at the right time from the right people.

My World Triangle

This is the tool used for Assessment and Planning



My Child's Named Person is.

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Information for Parents and Carers



For more information visit:
www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

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