

## Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)

### **Focused on children and young people most at risk, SCRA's fundamental purpose is to:**

- Make effective decisions about a need to refer a child/young person to a Children's Hearing
- Prepare for and participate in court proceedings where Statement of Grounds or Hearings findings are appealed, and ensure the wellbeing of children and young people – particularly vulnerable witnesses – are protected throughout the court process
- Support Panel Members (though we are not involved in making Hearing decisions) and ensure fair process in Hearings
- Enable children, young people and families to participate in Hearings
- Disseminate information and data to influence and inform the wider Children's Services community
- Provide premises for Hearings to take place
- Work collaboratively with partners to support and facilitate the Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) agenda

## What is the "Getting it Right" agenda?

GIRFEC is a Scottish Government policy which enables and promotes different ways for families to work in partnership with people who can help them, like teachers, doctors and nurses. GIRFEC provides a national practice model for working with children and their families which respects the rights of children and families and which involves children and families in the decisions about them by keeping them at the centre.

The GIRFEC approach is available on the Scottish Government [website](#)

- Is child-focused - it ensures the child or young person – and their family – is at the centre of decision-making and the support available to them.
- Is based on an understanding of the wellbeing of a child in their current situation - it takes into consideration the wider influences on a child or young person and their developmental needs when thinking about their wellbeing, so that the right support can be offered
- Is based on tackling needs early - it aims to ensure needs are identified as early as possible to avoid bigger concerns or problems developing
- Requires joined-up working - it is about children, young people, parents, and the services they need working together in a coordinated way to meet the specific needs and improve their wellbeing.

## Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 gave GIRFEC a firm statutory footing and emphasised the need for there to be a single multi-agency approach to planning for children who require support.

The GIRFEC approach also requires a shared understanding of information sharing and of consent in relation to information sharing and work in relation to this is ongoing.

## SCRA's role

SCRA continues to be committed to working with partners under the GIRFEC framework.

SCRA is keen to ensure that GIRFEC produces the best possible outcome for the children and young people who are referred to us and we continue to work as part of the Children's Hearings Improvement Partnership (CHIP) to make sure that the Children's Hearings System is getting it right for every child.



Ensuring positive futures for children  
and young people in Scotland

[www.scra.gov.uk](http://www.scra.gov.uk)

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