

Children in Scotland

every child - every childhood

OUR VISION

Scotland will become a world leader in securing the wellbeing of every child and improving the quality of every childhood

OUR PURPOSE

We want every child to achieve their full and unique potential, to have the best start in life and the best support throughout their childhood

OUR PRIORITIES

To achieve this vision, everything we do over the next 5 years will be driven by the following strategic priorities:

Childhood

Learning

Health &
Wellbeing

A Stronger
Children's
Sector

Children in Scotland's Strategic Priorities

To achieve this vision, everything we do over the next 5 years will be driven by the following strategic priorities:

Childhood

Every child gets the best possible start. Their families feel empowered to secure their children's wellbeing and access the support they need when they need it, especially those children and families in poverty and those with additional support needs.

Services throughout childhood and adolescence have the resources, skills, and knowledge to operate effectively.

- We will provide leadership in producing a costed model for transforming Scotland's childcare system and demonstrate how it can be delivered through a national and local implementation programme.
- We will work nationally and locally to support implementation of GIRFEC and, in particular, contribute to improvements in securing the wellbeing of every child by playing an active role in national policy developments.
- We will work nationally to secure the prioritisation of, and increased resources for, effective early intervention for children who are vulnerable and at risk of poor outcomes. This will form part of our wider campaigning work to achieve social justice for every child.
- We will work with our members and partners to build and strengthen the role of parents in the planning, delivery and evaluation of universal and targeted services.

Learning

Every child and young person is a leader of their learning with parents and carers actively engaged in supporting this. Schools, early years and other settings are delivering Curriculum for Excellence entitlements and are

resourced to do so. Schools are recognised as community hubs of learning and wellbeing for their local communities.

- We will work tirelessly to create a culture where children are empowered to be leaders of their own learning through our engagement with schools, parents and the wider learning communities and our involvement in professional training and development.
- We will work at national and local level on a range of approaches to raise attainment and reduce the attainment gap, and support young people to achieve positive destinations – especially those experiencing poverty and who require additional support.
- We will develop and deliver a model of using food as a vehicle for the enrichment of learning and community development, using schools as community hubs.
- We will identify a range of support models that will help schools and other settings become community hubs of learning and wellbeing.

Health & Wellbeing

Current inequalities in health and wellbeing are reduced. The wellbeing outcomes of every child, especially those in poverty and with additional support needs, are understood, and the services that help achieve these outcomes are accessible, resourced

and created in partnership with children, young people, their families and the wider children's sector.

- We will support children, young people, families, professionals and policy makers from all sectors to recognise the importance of wellbeing to achieving all outcomes for every child and young person, particularly those in poverty and with additional support needs.
- We will provide high quality services that empower children, young people and their families to be proactive and participate in decision-making that influences their outcomes. We will achieve this particularly by growing and developing the capacity of 'Enquire: the Scottish Advice Service for Additional Support for Learning', 'Resolve', an independent mediation service, and by developing greater understanding of personalisation in access to, and management of, children's support services.
- We will provide local and national input to help Health and Social Care partnerships proactively address the needs and interests of children and families, underpinned by the principles of GIRFEC.
- We will work nationally and locally to support better integration of children's health services with adult health and social care services, especially before and during transition periods.
- We will consolidate our learning from parents and partners at a national and local level to provide support that develops the skills and knowledge of practitioners to engage effectively with children and families.

A Stronger Children's Sector

Children in Scotland is the unifying voice of the children's sector in Scotland and working along with our members and partners will be a strong and challenging force to bring about transformational change in achieving the wellbeing of every child in Scotland.

We will champion the cause of children and their families, demanding that decision-makers ensure that they are at the heart of policy making.

- We will maximise the power and influence of Scotland's children's sector by growing our membership and by building strong partnerships.
- We will provide the highest quality of services for members by listening and responding positively to their needs and those of the wider sector.
- We will provide leadership for our members so that through sharing, learning, facilitating and influencing, we are a combined and powerful force for transformational change throughout the sector.

For further information please visit our website: www.childreninscotland.org.uk