

# Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

An overview of Children in Scotland's information and resources; training and events; and influencing and representative work relating to the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

## Overview of the Act

The **Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014** aims to strengthen children's rights, and improve and expand the services that support children and families, including looked after children. It is the most significant law for children and families in Scotland since the Children (Scotland) Act 1995.

The Act has been introduced in stages. Parts 4, 5, 12 and 18 are due to be introduced in August 2016. Parts 1 and 3 are currently **out for consultation** until June 2017 and due to be introduced in April 2017.

### The Act at-a-glance

#### Parts 1-2:

A focus on strengthening children's and young people's rights.

#### Part 3:

Requires public services to work together to design, plan and deliver services for children and families.

#### Part 4:

Introduces a single point of contact for every child up to 18 – the Named Person.

#### Part 5:

Introduces a multi-agency 'Child's Plan' for every child who needs one.

#### Parts 6-8:

Increases entitlement to early learning and childcare and introduces a duty to provide flexibility to meet parents' needs.

#### Parts 9-11:

Improves aftercare and continuing care for looked after children.

#### Parts 12-13:

Strengthens rights and services for children at risk of becoming looked after.

#### Parts 14-18:

Includes other provisions such as the definition of 'Wellbeing' and the introduction of free school meals for all P1-P3 pupils.

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# Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

## Children in Scotland representing the children's sector

### **GIRFEC national Implementation Support Group**

Children in Scotland represents the breadth of the children's sector on this committee, with a particular focus on the third sector. Its aim is to act as a "critical adviser" to the Scottish Government in developing and implementing GIRFEC and the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act across Scotland.

Contact: [jcassidy@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:jcassidy@childreninscotland.org.uk)

### **Disabled Children and Young People Advisory Group**

Children in Scotland represents the experiences of parents, carers and children and young people with additional support needs on this group. One of the group's aims is to ensure that issues for disabled children and their families are represented in the guidance that accompanies the Act.

Contact [scavers@childreninscotland.org.uk](mailto:scavers@childreninscotland.org.uk)

## Information and resources

### **Touchpoints for the third sector**

Guides to help Third Sector organisations ranging from small community groups working with children and young people to larger organisations providing services – prepare for implementation of the Act.

### **Improving Wellbeing: Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 - e-learning resource**

An online training resource on the Act for all NHS staff. Children in Scotland worked with NES to incorporate children's perspectives on the SHANARRI indicators.

### **Parents' Guide to Additional Support for Learning**

This guide includes up-to-date information relating to wellbeing, the Child's Plan and the Named Person service, all introduced under the Act.

### **Additional Support for Learning factsheets**

A range of factsheets for parents and practitioners that are up-to-date with current legislation and policy.

### **COMING SOON\* Assessing Wellbeing in the Classroom: A Toolkit for Teachers**

# Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

## **Members' Briefings - available from the [members' area](#) of Children in Scotland's website:**

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3 update (March 2014).

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill - Section 4 (Named Person) (Feb 2014).

Debate on Stage One Report on the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill (Nov 2013).

How Children in Scotland is contributing to 'Getting it right for every child' (GIRFEC) (Oct 2013).

Scottish Conservative Party debate on the Named Person Section of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill (Sept 2013).

Children and Young People Bill - overview (May 2013).

Children and Young People Bill - Looked after children, young people and care leavers (March 2013).

Children and Young People Bill – Early learning and childcare (Jan 2013).

Children and Young People Bill – GIRFEC (Jan 2013).

## **Training and events**

All of our child protection courses take into account changes that are being implemented as a result of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

### **Child protection for all: an introduction and refresher**

Provides an overview of child protection, taking into account updated legislation and new practice such as GIRFEC and the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. Focuses on what your individual and organisation's roles and responsibilities are, and what steps to take should you feel a child requires your support.

### **Child protection: for managers and designated persons**

Examines the roles and responsibilities of designated persons within the context of national policies and frameworks, such as GIRFEC and the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

# Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

## Influencing policy and legislation

Children in Scotland will respond to the **Consultation of Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014: Guidance on Part 1 - Duties of Public Authorities in Relation to the UNCRC, and Statutory Guidance Part 3: Children's Services Planning.**

The closing date for responses is Monday 13 June 2016.

**We should all become champions of child rights** (Third Force News, 14 April 2016)  
Jackie Brock highlights some of Children in Scotland's manifesto calls, which are all based on realising the UNCRC, in an election themed column for Third Force News.

**Letter: Plan for 'state guardians' will not erode the right to privacy** (the Herald, 9 March 2016)

A letter to the Editor, signed by Children in Scotland in support of the Named Person.

**The Named Person will safeguard children from abuse** (Third Force News, 21 January 2016)

Jackie Brock explains why the children's sector should be ready to welcome the introduction of the named person later this year.

Children in Scotland responded to the **Consultation on Complaints Concerning Functions Relating to the Named Person and Child's Plan** (October 2015).

Children in Scotland responded to the **Consultation on the draft Statutory Guidance for Parts 4, 5 and 18 (Section 96) and related draft orders of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014** (May 2015).

### Children in Scotland

Children in Scotland is the collective voice for children, young people and families in Scotland, and organisations and businesses that have a significant positive impact on children's lives.

We are an influencing and membership organisation, comprised of representatives from the voluntary, public and private sectors. Our vision is that Scotland will become a world leader in securing the wellbeing of every child and improving the quality of every childhood.

**Contact us:**

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