



Supporting the
Third Sector Project



UNCRC Incorporation and Children's Services Planning

January 2026



Contents

1.	What is this resource for?	2
2.	UNCRC Incorporation – What do you need to know?	2
3.	Children’s Services Planning and upholding UNCRC	10
4.	Resources	15



1. What is this resource for?

This resource will help those in the children’s sector and their Children’s Services Planning Partnerships to:

- Understand the basic principles of the UNCRC and how it impacts their practice
- Understand how the UNCRC fits within the wider legislative context
- Understand how the UNCRC fits within the context of Children’s Services Planning
- Access a range of resources to support implementing a children’s rights-based approach.



2. UNCRC Incorporation – What do you need to know?



Download a child friendly version of the Convention

2.1 What is the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)?

The UNCRC is a legally binding agreement and the most widely ratified international human rights treaty in history. It outlines the “fundamental rights of every child, regardless of their race, religion or abilities.”¹

The UNCRC Convention has 54 articles that together cover all aspects of a child’s life and set out the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights for every child. It is important to remember that UNCRC rights are:

- **Universal:** everyone under the age of 18 has these rights
- **Inalienable:** they cannot be taken away
- **Indivisible:** they cannot be separated from one another, or placed in order of importance
- **Interdependent:** each right depends on the others to be fully upheld.

¹ UNICEF. What is the UN Convention on Human Rights?

There are four guiding principles of the UNCRC:



Article 2

Rights are applied without discrimination

This is the obligation to respect and ensure the rights of the UNCRC for each child, without discrimination; and to take appropriate measures to ensure that the child is protected against all forms of discrimination.



Article 3

The best interests of the child are a primary consideration

This is the obligation to assess, and take as a primary consideration, the best interests of the child. Assessing and determining best interests requires procedural guarantees, for example by showing a) what has been considered in the child's best interest; b) what criteria it is based on; and c) how a child's interests have been weighed against other considerations.



Article 6

The right to life, survival and development

This is the obligation to respect and ensure the rights of the UNCRC for each child, without discrimination; and to take appropriate measures to ensure that the child is protected against all forms of discrimination.



Article 12

The right to express a view and have that view given due weight

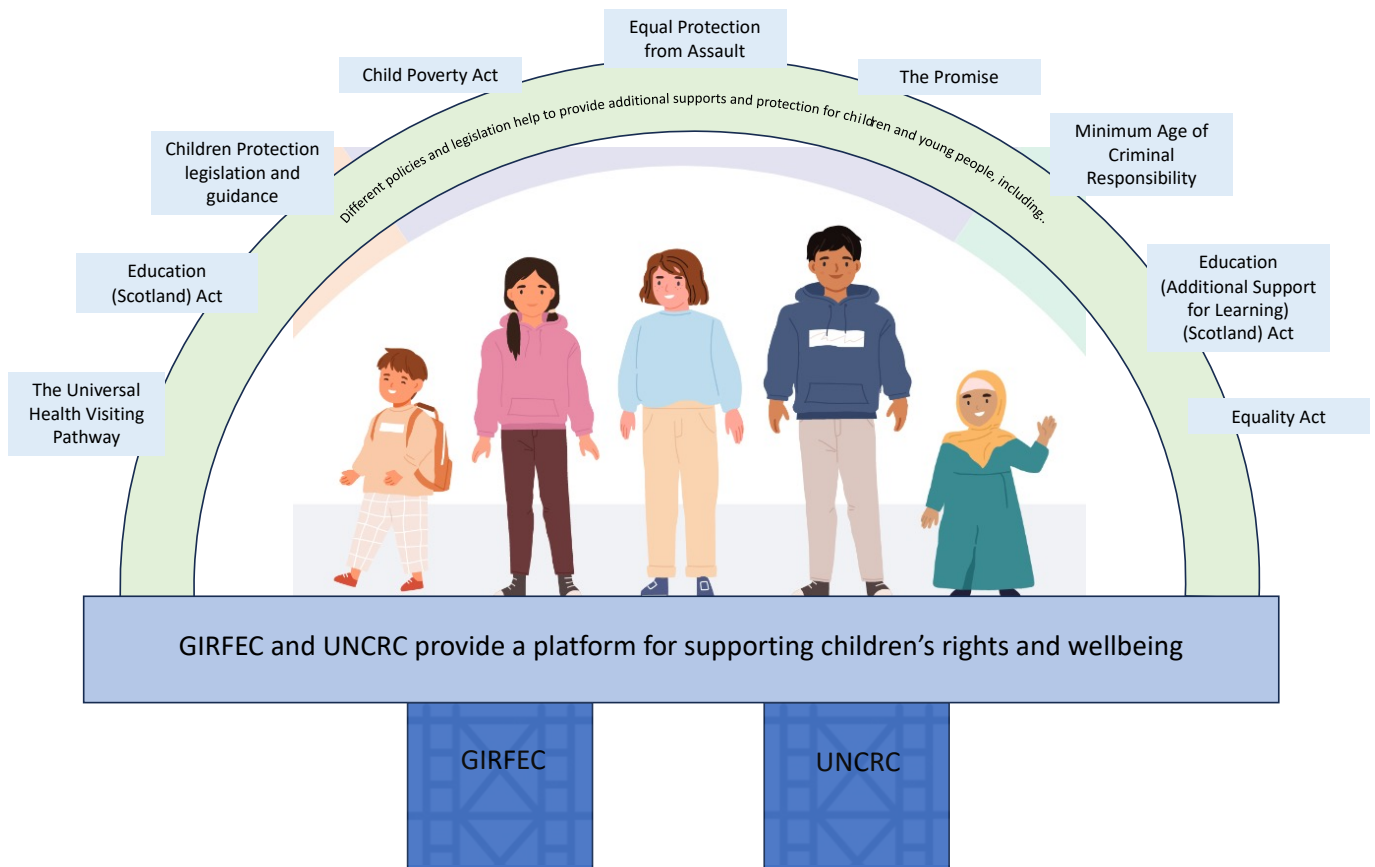
This is children's right to express their opinion on matters that affect them and the obligation to take these views into account in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.

2.2 Where does the UNCRC sit in the wider policy and legislative framework?

Scotland has a strong track record of upholding children's rights in law, policy and practice. There is a range of legislation and policy in Scotland which supports and compliments the UNCRC and the rights and obligations that are outlined within it.

Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)

The UNCRC, along with Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), together are the foundation for children's rights and wellbeing in Scotland.

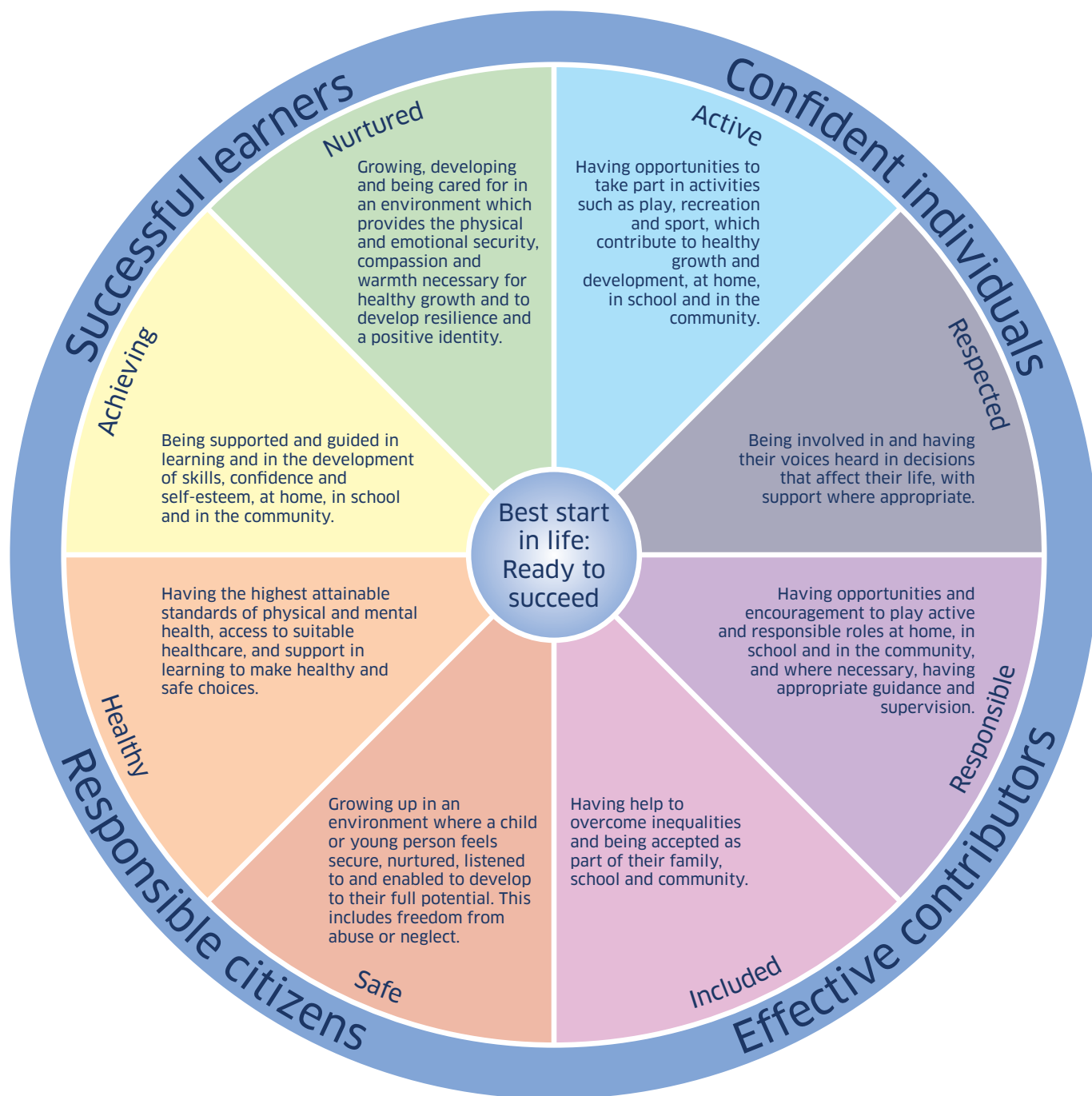


Graphic from Children in Scotland's "An Introduction to Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC)" eLearning module.

GIRFEC is Scotland's national approach to promoting, supporting and safeguarding the wellbeing of all children and young people. GIRFEC supports all children and young people to grow up feeling loved, safe and respected and helps them to reach their full potential. GIRFEC provides a consistent framework for supporting children, young people and families and works with the UNCRC to make sure policy, legislation and decision-making take children's rights into account.

The GIRFEC approach was developed from the UNCRC as children's rights and wellbeing are intrinsically linked, universal and mutually reinforcing. GIRFEC compliments the UNCRC by putting the rights of children and young people at the heart of good practice and embeds children's rights as part of the wellbeing indicators.

There are eight wellbeing indicators, often referred to as SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible, Included) which form a framework for practitioners to use a common language to describe wellbeing. Assessment, analysis and planning take place within this framework. The wellbeing indicators are aligned with the rights specified by the UNCRC.



Wellbeing wheel graphic from Scottish Government's GIRFEC wellbeing resources (SHANARRI).

Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 received royal assent on 27th March 2014. It focused on children's services and all stages of a child's life, from birth into adulthood.

The legislation encourages preventative measures rather than crisis responses, shifting public services towards the early years of a child's life and early intervention when a child, young person or family was in need.³ The Act brought the eight GIRFEC wellbeing indicators into Scottish law.⁴

³ The Scottish Government (2016) Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014: National Guidance on Part 12: Services in Relation to Children At Risk of Becoming Looked After, Etc.

⁴ The Scottish Government (2019) Children's Rights legislation in Scotland: A quick reference guide.

The Act established a new legal framework within which services are to work together in support of children, young people and families underpinned by the UNCRC and GIRFEC. For example, the Act:

- Strengthens the powers of the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland to enable investigations to be conducted in relation to matters concerning individual children and young people. (Part 2)
- Establishes a structure for the integrated planning and delivery of all children's services in a local authority area. (Part 3)
- Establishes a holistic understanding of child wellbeing for the purposes of the 2014 Act. (Part 18)⁵

National Performance Framework

The National Performance Framework (NPF) is Scotland's wellbeing framework. It sets the vision for the kind of Scotland we all want to live in. The National Outcomes tell us what good looks like while the National Indicators help us to understand if we are moving in the right direction. Of note is the 'Children and Young People National Outcome: We grow up loved, safe and respected so that we realise our full potential'.⁶

Following the latest statutory review of the National Outcomes, and the subsequent Scottish Parliament inquiry, the Scottish Government has committed to a period of reform of the National Performance Framework.



The Promise

It is fundamental to the UNCRC that all children grow up loved, safe and respected. The Promise is a commitment to care experienced children and young people that they will grow up loved, safe and respected.⁷ This reiterates the Children and Young People National Outcome, made specifically to care experienced children and young people. The Promise was made in 2020, with a commitment to be kept by 2030.

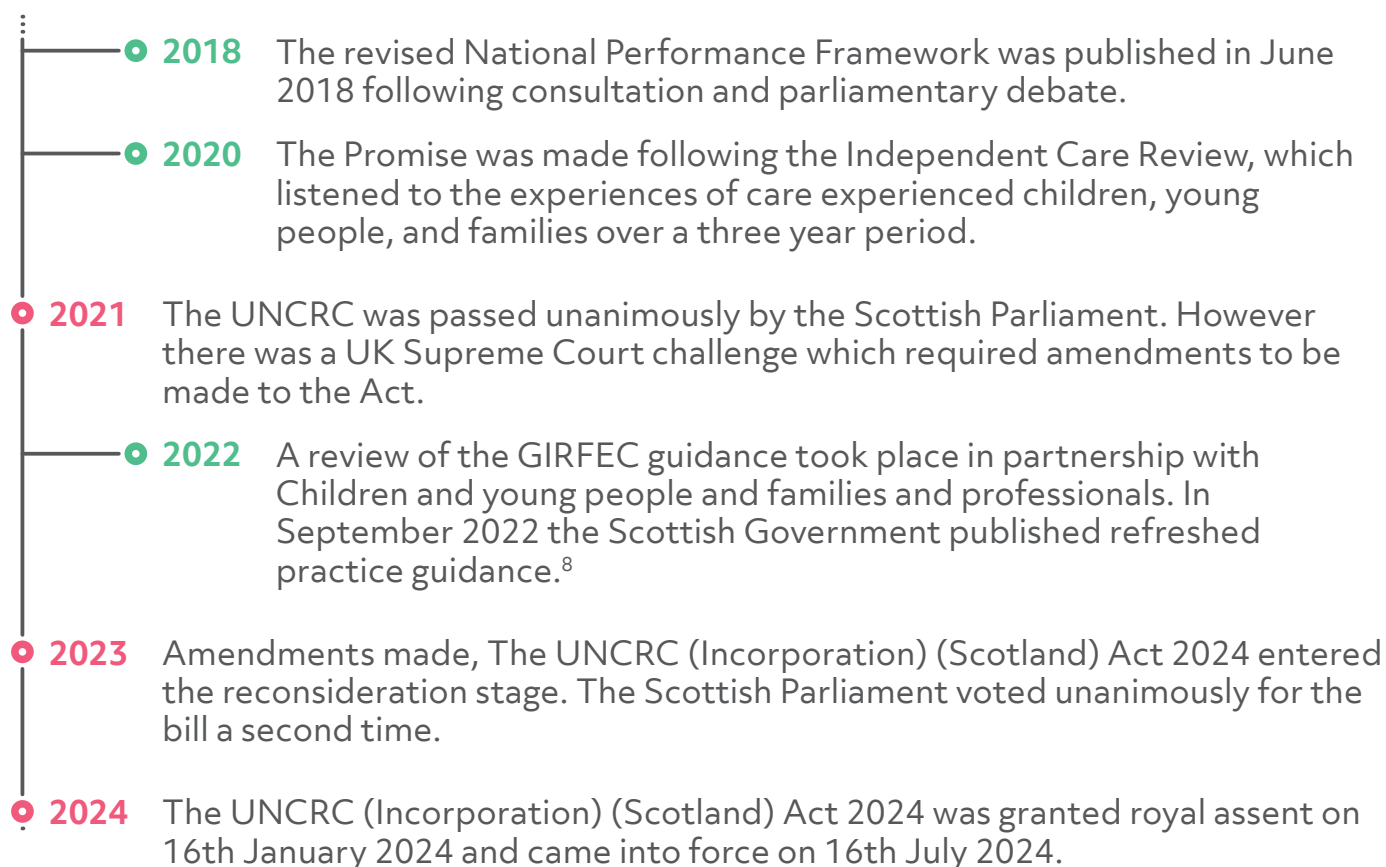
Incorporation timeline:

- **1991** The UK ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
- **2006** Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) Implementation plan was published and approach tested in pilots across Scotland.
- **2007** The first National Performance Framework was launched by the Scottish Government.
- **2014** The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 created new duties to uphold rights.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ National Performance Framework.

⁷ The Promise Scotland. Foundations of the promise.

- 
- A vertical timeline on the left side of the page, marked with dots at the top and bottom. Horizontal lines extend from the timeline to the right, connecting to specific years and their corresponding events. The years 2018, 2020, and 2022 are in green, while 2021, 2023, and 2024 are in red.
- **2018** The revised National Performance Framework was published in June 2018 following consultation and parliamentary debate.
 - **2020** The Promise was made following the Independent Care Review, which listened to the experiences of care experienced children, young people, and families over a three year period.
 - **2021** The UNCRC was passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament. However there was a UK Supreme Court challenge which required amendments to be made to the Act.
 - **2022** A review of the GIRFEC guidance took place in partnership with Children and young people and families and professionals. In September 2022 the Scottish Government published refreshed practice guidance.⁸
 - **2023** Amendments made, The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 entered the reconsideration stage. The Scottish Parliament voted unanimously for the bill a second time.
 - **2024** The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 was granted royal assent on 16th January 2024 and came into force on 16th July 2024.

2.3 The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 – What has changed?

The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 means that **children's rights are now part of the law in Scotland**. It is a landmark piece of legislation in making sure Scotland is the best place to grow up.

The UNCRC Act, which came into force in July 2024, directly incorporates the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into domestic law in Scotland within the limits of devolved competence. The intent behind the UNCRC Act is to deliver a proactive culture of everyday accountability for children's rights across public services in Scotland.

The Act makes it unlawful for public authorities to act, or fail to act, in a way that is incompatible with the UNCRC requirements as set out in the schedule to the Act. The Act also introduces a new route for children, young people and their representatives to use the courts to enforce their rights.

Some aspects of the UNCRC text have been removed or 'carved out' and do not appear in the Act. The elements which have been removed relate to reserved matters under the Scotland Act 1998 that are outwith the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament.

The incorporation of the UNCRC Act introduces the following:

- Public authorities must not act in a way that is incompatible with the UNCRC requirements as defined in the Act.
- Children, young people and their representatives have a new ability to use the courts to enforce their rights.

⁸ GIRFEC Resources: GIRFEC resources – Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC). gov.scot.

- Existing legislation will have to be read in a way that is compatible with the UNCRC requirements as defined in the Act wherever possible and the courts will have powers to decide if legislation is compatible with the UNCRC requirements.
- The Scottish Government will be able to change laws to make sure they are compatible with the UNCRC requirements as defined in the Act.
- The Act gives new legal powers to the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland and the Scottish Human Rights Commission which include the power to intervene in legal proceedings or to bring proceedings in the Commissioner's name on a range of different children's rights issues.⁹ These powers have since been used in the first ever UNCRC Act case.¹⁰
- The Scottish Government must publish a Children's Rights Scheme, and review this annually to show they are meeting requirements and explain their future plans for children's rights.
- Public authorities listed in section 19 of the Act will have to report every three years on what they are doing and intend to do to meet the UNCRC requirements as defined in the Act and better secure or further effect the rights of children.¹¹

Why is the UNCRC relevant to the third sector?

Upholding and promoting children's rights is the right thing to do. Listening to children and young people and acting in their best interests, supporting them to thrive and not discriminating, leads to better outcomes for children and young people, and can also lead to better use of resources, saving money in the short and long term.

Additionally, with incorporation, third sector organisations may now have a **legal duty** not to act incompatibly with UNCRC requirements as defined in the UNCRC Act.

Definition of Public Authority

The requirements of the UNCRC Act apply across the entire system of government and public administration in Scotland, and to any bodies across the public, third and independents sectors where they meet the definition of a 'public authority'.

A public authority is 'any person certain of whose functions are functions of a public nature.' This includes 'functions carried out under a contract or other arrangement with a public authority'.

Public functions are functions performed for the collective benefit of the general public. An activity is public in nature if it is something that a private individual or organisation would not normally do, for example providing public health care or government policy making.

Third sector organisations therefore come under the definition of a public authority in some contexts and are obliged to comply with the UNCRC Act under these contexts.

⁹ Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (2024) We have new legal powers after UNCRC incorporation: our Q&A explains all.

¹⁰ Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (2025) Future decisions to prosecute children must meet UNCRC Act Standards.

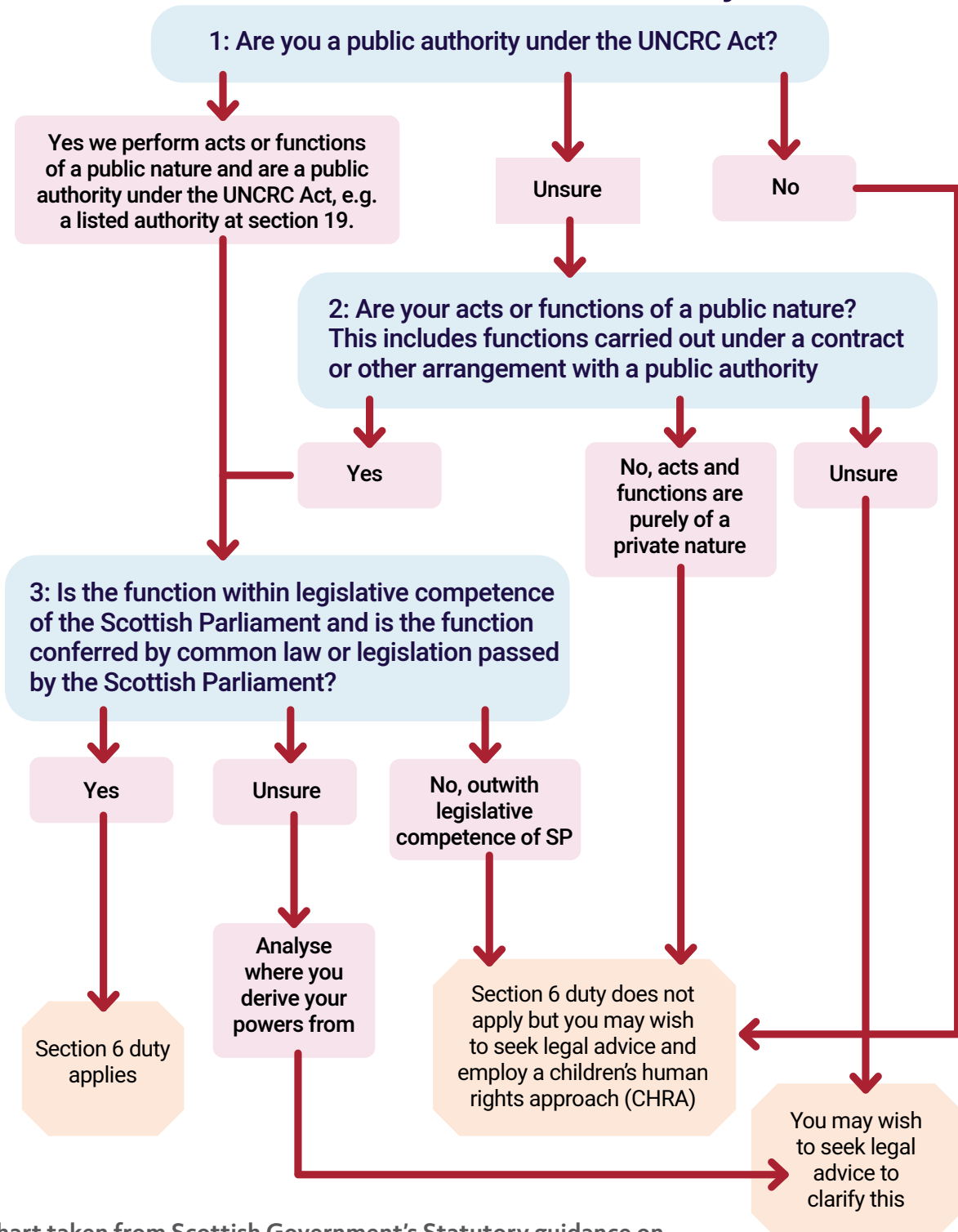
¹¹ United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.

It is important to note:

- **Section 6** of the UNCRC Act (the compatibility duty) will apply beyond organisations in the children's sector.
- Organisations do not need to be publicly funded to be a 'public authority'.

The flowchart below can help you establish whether the compatibility duty applies to your organisation, but if you are in doubt, seek legal advice.

Flowchart to aid decision-making in relation to the section 6 duty



Flowchart taken from Scottish Government's Statutory guidance on Part 2 of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024

Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework

To enhance understanding of the UNCRC and taking a Children's Rights approach the Scottish Government commissioned the Children's Parliament, Together, JRS Knowhow, JustRight Scotland and The Observatory on Human Rights of Children in Wales to create a Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework.¹²

This framework has been designed to support workers across sectors and at all levels and is a one-point access to resources on children's rights. The framework also includes a comprehensive Training Plan to identify and support organisational and individual learning needs.

2.4 What has not changed?

While the UNCRC has been incorporated into Scots Law, we as a sector have already been using UNCRC as a framework to ensure that we consider children's rights whenever we make decisions.

The UNCRC and children's rights have for a number of years informed policy and legislation regarding children and young people. Therefore, while certain legal aspects have changed and have been incorporated, **best practices have not changed** and all organisations should continue to strive to meet the requirements of the UNCRC and how it relates to other policies such as GIRFEC, the Wellbeing Indicators and the Promise.

Good practice examples can be found through case studies from various organisations which can be found in the resources section.



3. Children's Services Planning and upholding UNCRC

3.1 Children's Services Planning Requirements

A Children's Services Plan is a document which must be prepared every three years by a local authority and relevant health board under the terms of Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) 2014 Act.

Children's Services Plans seek to improve outcomes for all children and young people through the delivery of services that will support their wellbeing, promote early intervention and preventative approaches, demonstrate best use of resources, and allow for the better planning and coordination of those services. Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) 2014 Act also requires that the local authority and health board (working in partnership with Children's Services Planning Partners) must use children's rights to inform the framework of the Children's Services Plan.

¹²Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework.

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 previously placed duties on certain public authorities to report on what they were doing to progress children's rights under Part 1 (Section 2) of the same Act every three years. However, the UNCRC (Incorporation)(Scotland) Act 2024 has created new reporting duties which replace the reporting duty under the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.¹³ Listed authorities in the UNCRC Act are expected to consider at an early stage how children will be meaningfully involved in developing reports, taking account of diverse experiences, views and circumstances.¹⁴

Children's Services Planning is key to ensuring that local services support the rights of children and young people. Upholding UNCRC is central to the achievement of local and national priorities and outcomes: the two have clear alignment with each other.

The Scottish Government has provided guidance that advocates and provides resources for **adopting a children's human rights approach**.¹⁵ The Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework provides the following principles of a children's human rights approach in Scotland¹⁶:

- **Embedding:** Putting children's rights at the core of decision making, working practice, planning, reporting, and the delivery of services that affect children and young people.
- **Equality and non-discrimination:** Ensuring that every child and young person has what they need so that they have equal opportunity to fulfil their potential.
- **Empowerment:** Building the agency and capacity of children and young people as rights-holders to claim their rights.
- **Participation:** Listening to children and young people and taking their views seriously, as required by Article 12 of the UNCRC.
- **Accountability:** Delivering a proactive culture of everyday responsibility for children's rights across services, including in decision making. Taking steps to monitor children's rights standards and provide remedies where there is failure to meet these standards.

3.2 Best practice in Children's Services Planning

Involvement of Children, Young People and Families

Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) 2014 Act requires the local authority and health board (working in partnership with Children's Services Planning Partners) to "use children's rights to inform the structural, procedural and outcome framework of their plan, **making full use of children, young people, and families' suggestions to convey a shared sense of ongoing engagement and ownership**".¹⁷

Article 12 of the UNCRC states that all children have the right to be heard; adults should take account of children's views when making decisions that may affect them.

With this in mind it is essential that children, young people and families are involved at all levels of the process of children's services planning. When considering how to involve

¹³ The Scottish Government (2024) Taking a children's human rights approach: guidance.

¹⁴ The Scottish Government (2024) Statutory guidance on Part 3 of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.

¹⁵ The Scottish Government (2024) Taking a children's human rights approach: guidance.

¹⁶ Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge Framework.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

children and young people there are a range of resources available which can support good practice in participation and engagement. This includes the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland's 7 Golden Rules¹⁸ for Participation, and Children in Scotland's Principles and Guidelines¹⁹ which you can find in the resources section along with other useful links.

Involvement of the third sector

Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) 2014 Act and the **statutory guidance** recognises the importance of the third sector in improving the lives of children, young people, and families. The legislation also calls for collaboration across Community Planning Partnerships, including with third sector organisations.

The third sector has a vital role in providing services to children, young people, and families in their communities. As a result, the third sector has key insights into the needs of the local population and is therefore uniquely placed to identify what support is most effective in meeting those needs.

Therefore, working collaboratively with the third sector and utilising third sector data will help provide a clear understanding of local needs of children, young people and families and should contribute to informing future service planning.

Children in Scotland published in 2024 the 'How Good is Our Third Sector Participation in Children's Services Planning' Self-Evaluation Tool.²⁰ This can be utilised by the Local Authority and local Third Sector Interface to self-evaluate the current processes surrounding Children's Services Planning collaboratively.

Clear examples and evidence of UNCRC and children's rights presented in the Children's Services Plan

The **Part 3 Guidance** of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 expresses that the required Children's Rights Reports from listed authorities can be combined with other reports as long as they meet the requirements set out in the Act. The statutory guidance highlights that each listed authority can choose how to report this but that Children's Services Planning "offers a potential structure for the fulfilment of their children's rights reporting duty".

With the implementation of the UNCRC Act, the following has been suggested when thinking about children's rights reporting requirements and Children's Services Plans:

- There are opportunities through children's services planning to articulate what children's rights looks like in practice by outlining actions to be taken over each three-year period of children's service planning.²¹
- Similarly, there are opportunities for local authorities and health boards to fulfil children's rights reporting requirements from the UNCRC Act through integration of rights reporting within children's services planning annual reports.²²

¹⁸ Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland (2020) 7 Golden Rules for use with children.

¹⁹ Children in Scotland (2022) Meaningful Participation and Engagement of Children and Young People. Children in Scotland's Principles and Guidelines.

²⁰ Children in Scotland (2024) Self-evaluation Tool: How Good is our third sector participation in Children's Services Planning?

²¹ The Scottish Government (2025) Improving outcomes for children, young people and families: Review of Scotland's Children's Services Plans (2023-2026) and strategic engagement.

²² *Ibid.*

- For example, setting targets and aims within the Children's Services Plan through consultation with partners and the community, including the third sector and children, young people, and families. How these aims and targets will be achieved over the three-year period would be articulated clearly in the plan and the required annual reporting could document the progress towards achieving these targets.
- It is recommended that listed authorities consider a separate children's rights section or annex to make this information as clear as possible. General commentary on children's rights not directly related to the section 18(1)(a) and (b) requirements would not satisfy the reporting requirements in the UNCRC Act.

In the Scotland's Children's Services Plans 2023-2026 Review,²³ good practice was highlighted in various local areas across Scotland which can be found in the resources section.

3.3 Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessments (CRWIA)

For some proposed actions, a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) may be required.

Children's Rights Impact Assessments are recommended by UNICEF and are recognised as one of the general measures of implementation under the UNCRC per General Comment No. 5. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child recommends that all levels of government – national, regional, and local – complete a CRIA as part of their policy development. In Scotland, we use a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA), which includes two frameworks in its assessments: The UNCRC articles and the eight wellbeing indicators part of the GIRFEC approach.

A CRWIA is an assessment process, tool, and report that considers the potential impacts that any proposed decision will have on children's rights and wellbeing.²⁴ This process includes identifying, analysing and recording the anticipated impact any policy or measure proposed within your organisation may have on children's rights and wellbeing. It must be noted that this covers any proposed measure – not just those directly relating to children and young people.

Statutory Guidance recommends using CRWIAs in the planning process to ensure that children's rights and wellbeing fully inform the structural, procedural and outcome framework of a Children's Services Plan. This approach can help Children's Services Planning Partnerships to identify early intervention and prevention activities which benefit specific groups of children and young people. In addition, using CRWIA can also assist in documenting progress of local rights-based services agendas.²⁵

It is not a legal requirement for public authorities, other than the Scottish Government and Executive Agencies, to undertake a CRWIA. However, there are benefits in doing so.

²³ *Ibid.*

²⁴ The Scottish Government (2024) Child rights and wellbeing impact assessment external guidance and templates.

²⁵ The Scottish Government (2024) Statutory guidance on Part 3 of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 pg. 57-58.

The benefits include (as listed in Scottish Government Guidance):²⁶

- Organisations consider the potential impact of policies/measures on children's rights and wellbeing.
- Helps organisations to consider children's views during the decision-making process in accordance with needs expressed by children themselves.
- Assessment of potential impact is informed by existing evidence and research and helps identify where there may be gaps in evidence.
- Any potential negative impacts on children can be identified, mitigated against, and policy can be improved to uphold and advance the rights and the wellbeing of children.

The CRWIA model and resources are available for wider use by public authorities. We have linked in section four of this document examples of CRWIA templates, resources and in-depth guidance.

²⁶ Scottish Government (2024) Child rights and wellbeing impact assessment external guidance and templates.



4. Resources

This section of the paper lists resources and further reading from other organisations that may be useful in understanding UNCRC Incorporation and its relationship with Children's Services Planning.

Child Rights Wellbeing and Impact Assessment (CRWIA)



Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland (2022) 'Listen, engage have fun': Guide on involving children in child rights impact assessment (CRIA) and child rights impact evaluation (CRIE)

The Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland's guide on how to involve Children in Child Rights Impact Assessment and Child Rights Impact Evaluation.



Scottish Government (2024) Child rights and wellbeing impact assessment process map

Provides CRWIA Templates and guidance on approaching the CRIWA Process Map and each of the stages.



Scottish Government (2024) Child rights and wellbeing impact assessment external guidance and templates

Guidance on how to complete a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Screening Sheet and Impact Assessment (CRWIA).



Together Scotland (2022) Support the use of Child Rights Impact Assessments (CRIA's)

Together in partnership with the British Institute for Human Rights to produce resources to support the use of Child Rights Impact Assessments.



UNICEF Child Rights Impact Assessment: Template and Guidance for Local Government

The Child Friendly Cities & Communities programme has produced a child rights impact assessment (CRIA) template, with accompanying guidance and advice, specifically for local government and partners – offering a standard tool through which to measure the impact of local policies or services on children's rights.

Children's Services Planning



Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024



Scottish Government (2020) Children's Services Planning: Guidance

Updated guidance (2020) for local authorities and health boards on exercising the functions conferred by Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.



Scottish Government (2025) Improving outcomes for children, young people and families: Review of Scotland's Children's Services Plans (2023-2026) and strategic engagement

Review of children's services plans for 2023 to 2026, in line with Part 3 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. This report presents key findings from the review of Scotland's 30 Children's Services Plans (CSPs) which cover the planning cycle for 2023 to 2026.

Children's Human Rights Approach



Scottish Government (2024) Taking a children's human rights approach: guidance

Guidance to provide information and resources to support public authorities and other organisations to implement a children's human rights approach.



Children's Rights Skills and Knowledge and Skills Framework

This framework is designed to support individuals and organisations to adopt a children's rights approach, improve the workforces understanding of children's rights, highlight useful resources and enable the necessary culture change to fully respect, protect and fulfil rights for children and young people in Scotland.

Co-Production



Scottish Co-production Network (2023) Co-pro example: Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector: Recognising and rewarding co-design

Zsara McEwan reflects on the creation of a co-design remuneration and rewards policy which was part of a wider project aimed at changing the way family support services are procured and designed.



Scottish Co-production Network The Co-production Guide

This guide is aimed at practitioners in a range of settings and working at different levels.



Fife Voluntary Action (2024) Together for Change: Whole Family Wellbeing Co-production Report

The Together for Change project aimed to capture and understand the experiences of children, young people and families to facilitate the transformation and funding of children's services so that children and families in Fife experience better outcomes. This report contains the findings of the project.

Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)



Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC)

The Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) Policy.



GIRFEC wellbeing resources (SHANARRI)

Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) resources relating to wellbeing.

 Children in Scotland “An Introduction to Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC)” eLearning module

This free resource can be accessed through Children in Scotland’s e-Learning Hub, along with other useful e-Learning modules.

 NHS Education for Scotland Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) E-Learning Modules

 Scottish Government (2022) Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC): policy statement

Provides an overview of the policy and legislative context for GIRFEC. It gives an outline of the core components of the policy, including refreshed values and principles, and ambitions for how we can do more in practice.

 Scottish Government (2022) Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) – Statutory Guidance – Assessment of Wellbeing 2022 – Part 18 (section 96) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014

This statutory guidance clarifies how the eight wellbeing indicators (SHANARRI) are used in assessing the wellbeing of children and young people and will explain what wellbeing is in the context of the Act.

 The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland GIRFEC Training and Resources

The Alliance has produced a range of resources such as training packs, videos, animations and easy read guides.

 Scottish Government (2022) Getting it right for every child – Practice Guidance 1 – Using the National Practice Model

The National Practice Model seeks to support practitioners to consider ways to improve wellbeing outcomes for a child or young person.

 Scottish Government (2022) Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC): case studies

This document contains examples of effective working using GIRFEC.

 Children in Scotland (2023) Getting it Right for Every Child: Refreshed Policy Statement Summary

Provides a high level summary of the GIRFEC Policy Statement including details of key changes.

National Performance Framework

 National Performance Framework

The National Performance Framework (NPF) is Scotland’s wellbeing framework and sets the vision for the kind of Scotland we all want to live in.

Participation Guidance



Hub na nÓg **Participation Framework**

The Framework supports departments, agencies and organisations in Ireland to improve their practice in listening to children and young people and giving them a voice in decision-making.



Care Inspectorate (2012) **Practice Guide: Involving children and young people in improving children's services**

The guide is aimed at practitioners and managers in statutory services, private and voluntary organisations that are involved in planning, developing or delivering children's services.



Children in Scotland (2022) **Meaningful Participation and Engagement of Children and Young People: Children in Scotland's Principles and Guidelines**

Children in Scotland's principles and guidelines on the participation and engagement of Children and Young People.



Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland (2016) **7 Golden Rules for use with children**

The 7 Golden Rules for Participation are a set of principles that anyone working with children and young people can use. They inform adults what children and young people's participation should feel like.



Scottish Government (2024) **Decision-making: children and young people's participation**

Guidance on how to involve children and young people in decision-making.

The Promise



The Promise Scotland **Foundations of the Promise**

The Promise Scotland Website.



The Promise Plan 24-30

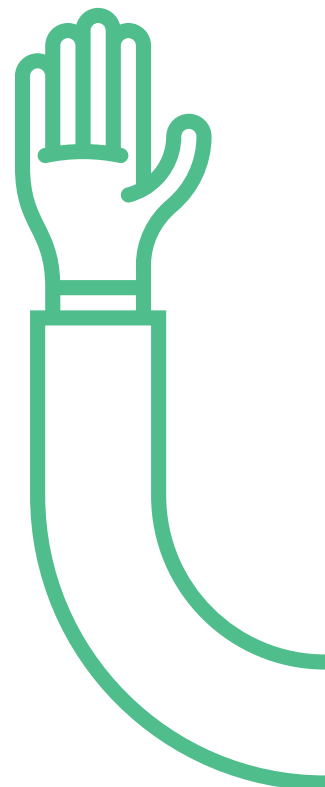
The Promise's 24-30 plan website. This is Scotland's route map to #KeepThePromise by 2030.

Third Sector Participation



Children in Scotland (2024) **'How Good is Our Third Sector Participation in Children's Services Planning?' Self-evaluation Tool**

A self-evaluation tool for statutory and third sector partners so assess third sector participation in Children's Services Planning.





Children in Scotland (2024) Supporting The Third Sector Project Survey (2024) : Exploring the role of the third sector in Children's Services Planning

This report presents the findings from the 2024 Supporting the Third Sector Project survey, which was designed to understand the extent of third sector involvement in Children's Services Planning (CSP) arrangements.



Children in Scotland (2025) How good is our third sector participation in Children's Services Planning? Learning report on 2024-25 intensive locality support

This report focuses on intensive locality support delivered in three localities supporting the implementation of the 'How good is our third sector participation in Children's Services Planning?' Self-evaluation tool.

UNCRC and Children's Rights Resources



The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024

The UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

A Summary of the Articles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.



Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland Children's Human Rights Resources

The Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland website contains information and resources regarding Children's Rights and UNCRC.



NHS National Education for Scotland Children's Rights E-Learning Modules

Introduction to Children's Rights e-learning module



Improvement Service Children's Rights Knowledge Hub

An online community of people who are working together to ensure that children's rights are realised in Scotland. This group is particularly focused on how public bodies are implementing the UNCRC in Scotland.



Improvement Service Children's rights in practice: Taking a children's rights-based approach in local authorities

A collection of case studies that highlight how children's human rights are being put into practice across Scotland's local authorities.



Scottish Government (2024) Statutory guidance on Part 2 of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024

Provides further information on Part 2 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.



Scottish Government (2024) Statutory guidance on Part 3 of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024

Provides further information on Part 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.



Scottish Government (2019) Getting it right in policy and legislation. Children's rights legislation in Scotland: A quick reference guide

Guide to children's rights legislation, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC).



Scottish Government (2013) UNCRC: The Foundation of Getting it Right for Every Child

A report showing how Getting it right for every child fully supports the implementation of UNCRC in Scotland.



UNICEF Case Studies: Good Practice from Rights Respecting Schools

Good practice examples from rights respecting schools.



Parent Club's Children's Rights Resources

An introduction to children's rights for parents, carers and families, including a booklet, where to get help and support and how to talk to children about their rights.



UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools

Resources to support teaching and learning about children's rights in schools.