What does the Children and Young People Bill say about Getting it right for every child?

Public bodies have to jointly make a plan, called a Children’s Services Plan, that describes how they will work together to provide services for children and to report on outcomes for children and young people.

This means...

Public bodies will prepare a Children’s Services Plan every three years – to deliver services that improve wellbeing in their area.

Every year public bodies will produce a report showing how they have achieved the aims and objectives set out in the Children’s Services Plan in their area.

The Named Person.

This means...

Every child in Scotland will have a Named Person, whose job already involves working with children. After birth – where a midwife will have a role – the Named Person will normally be a health visitor until school age. Thereafter to 18 (or when the child leaves school) the Named Person will normally be a head, deputy head or guidance teacher.

They’ll be the first point of contact for children and families, and can be called upon when there is a concern about a child’s or young person’s wellbeing that is not easy to address. They’ll be in a position to spot concerns at an early stage, and work with other services to work them out.
**The Child’s Plan.**

**This means…**

As most children’s wellbeing needs will be met from their families and services, most will not need a Child’s Plan. Only where there is a concern about wellbeing and extra help is needed will a Child’s Plan be prepared.

The Child’s Plan will be produced by services in discussion with the child and family and will include:

- an overview of the child’s needs;
- the actions that need to be taken;
- details of who is doing what to provide the help needed; and
- what improvements we expect to see.

The Child’s Plan must be reviewed as often as is needed – the more severe the concern, the more often it will be reviewed.

**Wellbeing**

Wellbeing is about how things are going for children in their lives. The GIRFEC approach describes what it looks like when things are going well – in other words whether a child is:

- Safe
- Healthy
- Achieving
- Nurtured
- Active
- Respected
- Responsible
- Included

This helps children, young people, parents and carers, and professionals to understand an individual child’s wellbeing in the same way. They are sometimes known as ‘SHANARRI’ for short.

By saying what wellbeing means, the Bill will make sure everyone knows what to think about when they are considering a child’s wellbeing.

**More about Getting it right for every child**

"The arrival of a structure mirroring and formalising good practice is a triumph of good sense…"

- Read Susan’s story – one of our GIRFEC case studies