

Stirling/Clackmannanshire Council GIRFEC Update

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of term here is a brief update on our preparation for the next phase of supporting children and young people under the GIRFEC Framework. Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) is a shared approach for people who work with children and young people and their families, focussing on what makes a positive difference to the lives of our children and young people, and the part we all play in helping make these positive changes happen.

The Named Person service is set within the Getting It Right For Every Child Framework which schools have been working within for almost ten years. The Named Person service is following in the footsteps of existing supports, which ensures that every child will have a Named Person if they require this support and in our local authority this will be provided by Education Services. Within your child's school every child will be entitled to a Named Person who will be a single point of contact and will coordinate support from appropriate services if required.

Most families will never need the Named Person service but when wellbeing information is highlighted by parents or anyone else, the Named Person will assess whether some level of help is needed and who is best placed to provide this. They will however, "Only offer advice or support in response to a request from a child, parent or when a wellbeing need is identified." (Scottish Government).

Where a Named Person receives wellbeing information, in discussion with the family and using their knowledge of the child or young person, a decision will be made whether any intervention is required. GIRFEC's Eight Wellbeing Indicators – Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Responsible, Respected and Included – make it easier for everyone to see whether a child or young person requires some kind of support at a particular point in time.

It is very important that Named Persons look at all available information before they decide whether or not support is required. The Named Person may need to seek further information or may require to share appropriate and relevant information to ensure they obtain the correct support for a child or young person. If information does not need to be shared then it won't be. Practitioners must work within Data Protection and Human Rights Legislation.

You will be told who your child's Named Person will be by 31st August 2016. For most children within the authority the Named Person will be:

0-5 years of age – Health Visitor / Family Nurse

5-18 attending school – Headteacher / Depute Headteacher

16+ not attending school – Youth Services

Further information about GIRFEC, Named Person and Wellbeing will be available on the Stirling Council website: www.stirling.gov.uk and is currently available on the Scottish Government Website: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright/about-named-person>

Yours Sincerely,



Bryony Monaghan,
Acting ASN Senior Manager.