



An Easy Read guide to...

# getting it right

*for every child*



## What is **Getting it right for every child?**



There is a way of working for people who work with children.

You might not have heard of this way of working before.



The new way of working has been brought in to help every child in Scotland have a good life.



It does not change how you should look after your child.



But it does change how people who work with your child look after them.

People who work with your child are people like...

- doctors
- nurses
- teachers
- social workers.



When these people talk to you about your child they will probably talk about the new way of working.



The new way of working is called **Getting it right for every child**.

Getting it right for every child is sometimes shortened to **GIRFEC**.

It comes from the first letter of each word in **G**etting **I**t **R**ight **F**or **E**very **C**hild.



This guide is about what **Getting it right for every child** means for you and your child.

**There are lots of parts to  
Getting it right for every child.**

The 2 main parts are...



People who work with children  
will check every child has what they need  
to have a good life.



Every child will have 1 person  
who looks out for them and their family  
if they need help.

On the next few pages there is more information about  
what these parts mean for you and your child.



When people like doctors and teachers talk to you about **Getting it right for every child** they might use jargon words.

It is important to know about these words and what they mean.

When we have used the jargon words in this guide they are written in **blue**.

There is a list of these words and what they mean at the back of this guide.



People who work with children will check every child has what they need to have a good life.

## What this means for you and your child



As a parent, you are usually the main person who cares for your child.



Through your child's life, lots of other people will play a part in caring for them too.

This is people like...

- doctors
- nurses
- teachers
- social workers.

Part of their job is to help every child have a good life.

**Getting it right for every child** says there are 8 things that every child needs to have a good life.



So people who work with your child will check your child has these 8 things.



The 8 things every child needs to have a good life are to be...

- safe
- healthy
- achieving
- nurtured
- active
- respected
- responsible
- included.

You can read about what these words mean on the next pages.

## Every child needs to be Safe

Being safe means things like...



Your child is kept away from dangerous things like fire and traffic



Your child has a safe place to live



Your child is protected from abuse



Your child is not bullied

People who work with your child will check your child is safe.



## Every child needs to be Healthy

Being healthy means things like...



Your child eats healthy food



Your child gets enough exercise



Your child is happy and feels good



Your child goes to the doctor and dentist when they need to

People who work with your child will check your child is healthy.

## Every child needs to be Achieving

Achieving means things like...



Your child learns new things



Your child wants to work hard at school



Your child feels confident



Your child gets praise when they do well

People who work with your child will check your child is achieving.

## Every child needs to be Nurtured

Being nurtured means things like...



Your child is cared for



Your child knows they are loved by their family



Your child has someone to turn to when they are upset



Your child has daily routines for eating, sleeping and personal care

People who work with your child will check your child is nurtured.

## Every child needs to be Active

Being active means things like...



Your child plays at home



Your child plays outdoors,  
for example rides a bike  
or plays in a park



Your child does fun things with the  
family



Your child does activities  
they like to do

People who work with your child will check your child is active.

## Every child needs to be Respected

Being respected means things like...



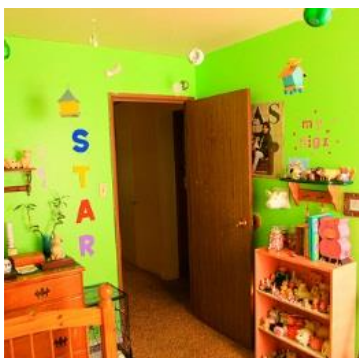
Your child is treated as an individual



Your child is listened to and taken seriously



Your child can keep things private if they want



Your child gets a say in things like how their room is decorated and what to watch on TV

People who work with your child will check your child is respected.

## Every child needs to be Responsible

Being responsible means things like...



Your child knows about right and wrong



Your child says sorry when they do something wrong



Your child has the right level of responsibility for their age – they tidy their room or do the dishes



You trust your child to do the right thing

People who work with your child will check your child is responsible.

## Every child needs to be Included

Being included means things like...



You and your child get the support you need



Your child can be part of a group like Scouts, Brownies or a football group if they want to



Your child joins in with their friends and other children at school



Your child is not left out

People who work with your child will check your child is included.



These 8 things that every child needs to have a good life are called **Wellbeing Indicators**.



**Wellbeing** is another word for how happy you are.



If you want more examples of what these words mean you can read a booklet called **An easy-read guide to Wellbeing**.





Getting it right for every child says people who work with your child will check your child has what they need to have a good life.

When they do this they will think about your child's whole environment.

This means...



- people who are around your child



- where your child lives



- what is going on in your child's life.



They will think about what is good about your child's environment.

And they will think about what could be better.



If they are worried about anything they will do something to help.



Every child will have 1 person who looks out for them and their family if they need help.

## What this means for **your** and **your child**



Most children get everything they need to have a good life from...

- their parents
- grandparents, aunts and uncles
- brothers and sisters
- other people around them.

But some children might need extra help.

Getting it right for every child says...



- every child should have 1 person to look out for them and their family if they need help



- this person should be someone from outside the child's family



- this person should be someone like a nurse or a teacher.



This person is called a **Named Person**.

Every child in Scotland now has a **Named Person**.



Every child has a **Named Person** from when they are born until they are 18.

## What does the **Named Person** do?



Your child's **Named Person** does not take over from you as a parent.



The **Named Person** is there to help you and your child if you need it.

## How the **Named Person** can help your child



The **Named Person** looks out for your child.



If the **Named Person** is worried about anything it is their job to try to make things better.



For example...  
They might be worried that your child is not doing as well at school as they should be.



Or they might be worried that your child is being bullied.



The **Named Person** will work with you and your child to make things better.



They might get other people or organisations to help too.

## How the **Named Person** can help you



You and your child can ask the **Named Person** for help and advice if you want it.



Having a Named Person means you will know who to go to for help and advice.

## Who is my child's **Named Person**?



You might have been told who your child's **Named Person** is.



If you don't know, you can find out by contacting your health visitor or your child's school.

Your child's **Named Person** will change as they get older.

Most children will have 3 different **Named Persons** as they grow up.



Between birth and when your child starts primary school...

their **Named Person** will usually be the health visitor.



When your child is at primary school...

their **Named Person** will usually be the Head Teacher or Deputy Head.



When your child is at high school...

their **Named Person** will usually be the Head Teacher or a guidance teacher.

## What else is in **Getting it right for every child?**

This guide is about the 2 main parts of **Getting it right for every child**.

These 2 main parts are...



People who work with children will check every child has what they need to have a good life.

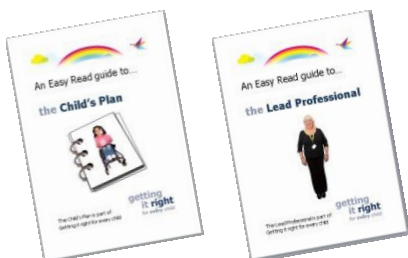


Every child will have 1 person who looks out for them and their family if they need help.

These 2 parts are the same for **every** child in Scotland.

There are 2 more parts of **Getting it right for every child** that are only for some children.

These parts are for children who need extra support.



These parts are called...

- Child's Plan
- Lead Professional

You can read about these parts in 2 more guides.

## **What the words mean**

### **Getting it right for every child**

The name of a way of working for people who work with children.

The way of working has been brought in to help every child in Scotland have a good life.

### **GIRFEC**

The short name for [Getting it right for every child](#).

### **Wellbeing Indicators**

The 8 things every child needs to have a good life.  
Every child needs to be...

- safe
- healthy
- achieving
- nurtured
- active
- respected
- responsible
- included.

You can read about what these words mean on pages 8 to 15.



## **SHANARRI**

A word people sometimes use instead of [Wellbeing Indicators](#).

It comes from the first letter of each of the [Wellbeing Indicators](#)...

**S**afe

**H**ealthy

**A**chieving

**N**urtured

**A**ctive

**R**espected

**R**esponsible

**I**ncluded.

## **Named Person (NP)**

A person who looks out for you and your child if you need help.

You can read more about the Named Person on pages 18 to 22.



This guide was produced by ENABLE Scotland on behalf of the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE). The Wellbeing section of the guide built on the excellent work of the People First (Scotland) Parents' Group.

The ALLIANCE has been funded by the Scottish Government to run a project to help parents, carers and children understand Getting it right for every child. The project is called "Getting to Know GIRFEC: what Getting It Right For Every Child means for children and young people who are disabled or who live with long term conditions".

This Easy Read guide forms part of the project and has been designed to be accessible to parents who have learning difficulties.

© November 2014

[www.alliance-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk)