

What is GIRFEC?

Getting it right for every child is a national policy to help all children and young people grow, develop and reach their full potential. Its focus is to improve outcomes for children and their families based on a shared understanding of their wellbeing. It puts children and young people at the heart of everything we do.

What does GIRFEC mean for you and your children?

You and your child will be fully involved in any processes and decisions which affect you. It involves working together to ensure the best possible outcomes for your child.

It enables you to:

- understand your responsibilities and the responsibility of others in developing your child's wellbeing
- be treated consistently as an individual in a language you understand
- access services more easily and be helped in the right way by the right people at the right time
- experience positive relationships with practitioners and other adults

The majority of children and young people in Moray will initially receive all the help and support they need from their family. Also, opportunities and support exist in neighbourhoods and communities, as well as the universal services of education and health.

If you do need help:

Getting it right for every child aims to

have the right people in place so that children and young people get the help they need at the right time. Access to help is made easier when children, young people, families and practitioners working with children and young people, know who to contact.

Named Person:

This person will be the key point of contact for the child and young person, their parents/ carers, professionals and members of the community when the child has a wellbeing need. The Named Person will work with you to resolve any concerns.

This person will change as your child gets older:

- Health visitor (birth to starting school) or Family Nurse (from birth until 2 years)
- Primary Head Teacher or other as arranged at school
- Secondary Guidance Teacher or other as arranged at school

Lead Professional:

In some circumstances, it becomes clear that a child/young person needs more co-ordinated and/or specialist help. When two or more agencies need to work together to help your child and family, a Lead Professional will be identified to manage assessment and planning to agree a way forward.

Information Sharing:

When people work together to provide extra support for a child/young person and their family/carers, they need to share relevant information to get the right help as quickly as possible. We will always discuss this with you unless this places your child at risk of harm.

If you require further information:

- ask people who are there to help you, for example your child's Named Person, a teacher, health worker, social worker or voluntary worker. They should be able to answer your questions or find out the answer for you
- <u>www.moray.gov.uk/girfec</u>
- www.scotland.gov.uk/gettingitright

If you have a child protection concern, call duty Social Work immediately on 01343 563900 (08457 565 656 out of office hours) and/or the Police on 101. Pass on your concern and all the information you have available to you.

