

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AFTER THE CONSULTATION?

After the consultation we will need to go through all the comments and feedback and revise the guidance.

This will be available later in 2015 to help teachers, health visitors and others get ready for when these parts of the new law come into force, which is likely to be in the middle of 2016.

Once the law has come into force, your local authority or your local NHS health board will tell you who the Named Person is for your child, and how to contact them.

MORE INFORMATION

The Scottish Government wants Scotland to be the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up.

Our website has a lot more information about how we are working to get it right for every child:
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People

If you would like to find out more about the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, here are some good starting points:
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/legislation

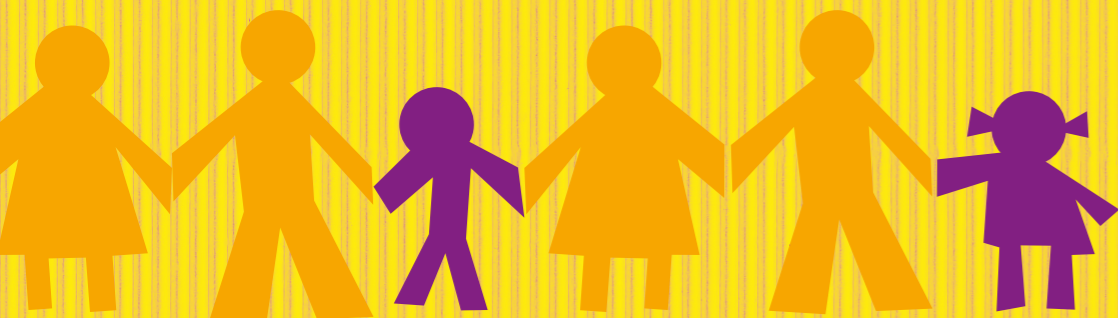
We've also got a separate website, created by and for young people:
www.wellbeingforyoungscots.org

You can follow us on Twitter for regular news and updates:
[@girfec](https://twitter.com/girfec)

If you'd like more information, get in touch:
girfec@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

National Parent Forum of Scotland:
www.parentforumscotland.org

GETTING IT RIGHT:
more support for you and your child



getting
it right
for every child

This leaflet from the Scottish Government tells you a bit more about a new law - **the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014** - and how it will help children, young people and their families to get more support if they need it.



The Scottish
Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

WHAT IS THE NEW LAW?

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 is aimed at making sure every child and young person gets all the support they need to do well in their lives.

There is a lot in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 and this leaflet focuses on just three key parts of it: Named Person, Wellbeing and Child's Plan. You can find out what else is in the Act by visiting our website: www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/legislation

Relating to these three areas, the new law will:

- say that the people and organisations who work with and for children and young people must work more closely together, putting the wellbeing of children and young people at the heart of everything they do
- encourage everyone to talk about a child's wellbeing using the same words – so that teachers and health workers are using the same terms as children and families
- give families extra support through a 'Named Person' service, providing an initial point of contact if children, young people, parents or carers need extra advice or help
- make sure that if information about a child needs to be shared this is always done properly, in line with other laws about information sharing, particularly the Data Protection Act 1998.

Some parts of Scotland have already adopted these changes. The idea behind the new law is to make sure everyone in Scotland is doing the same things to promote, support and safeguard children's wellbeing.

The Named Person will be a first point of contact if a child, young person or their parents or carers want information, advice or support. The Named Person would also be a first point of contact for other professionals if they had any other concerns about a child's wellbeing.

WHO MADE THIS LAW AND WHEN WILL IT COME INTO FORCE?

The Scottish Government made this law which will come into force in stages over the next two years or so.

Although it is not fully in force yet, we are working to make sure everyone is ready when the changes happen.

WHAT'S HAPPENING JUST NOW?

One of the main things we have done is to write detailed instructions ('statutory guidance') for the people and organisations that work to support your child. That includes, for example, health visitors, nursery staff, teachers, and the organisations they work for, like the local council or the NHS.

Although this guidance has been written for the people who support your child, parents also need to know about it.

We have written the guidance with help from lots of people who work with and for children, young people and their families. We have also had help from parents' representatives like the National Parent Forum of Scotland (NPFs).

GETTING MORE FEEDBACK

We now have a version of the guidance that we are sharing more widely to get feedback and discussion.

This consultation will last for 12 weeks (from 6 February 2015 to 1 May 2015). During this time, anyone can read the draft guidance and tell us if they think anything needs to be added or changed. The guidance is very detailed and is there to help teachers, health visitors and others to understand the new law and how it might affect the way they work.

As part of the consultation we will be meeting with lots of people who will need to know about the guidance. Many of them already work with children and young people and will be able to give us constructive comments on what we have written.

We will be consulting with parents' representatives as well – to tell them what the guidance says and to find out what they think.

If you would like to read the guidance, you can see it on our website: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2015/02/1851>

You are very welcome to give us your feedback via the website.