**GIRFEC Values and principles**

The Getting it right for every child values and principles build from the [Children’s Charter](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/04/19082/34410) and reflect legislation, standards, procedures and professional expertise:

* **Promoting the wellbeing of individual children and young people**  
  This is based on understanding how children and young people develop in their families and communities, and addressing their needs at the earliest possible time.
* **Keeping children and young people safe**  
  Emotional and physical wellbeing is fundamental and goes wider than child protection
* **Putting the child at the centre**  
  Children and young people should have their views listened to and they should be involved in decisions that affect them
* **Taking a whole child approach**  
  Recognising that what is going on in one part of a child or young person’s life can affect many other areas of their life and wellbeing
* **Building on strengths and promoting resilience**  
  Using a child or young person’s existing networks and support where possible
* **Providing opportunities to celebrate diversity**  
  Children and young people should feel valued in all circumstances and practitioners should create opportunities to celebrate diversity
* **Providing additional help that is appropriate, proportionate and timely**  
  Providing help as early as possible and considering short and long-term wellbeing needs
* **Supporting informed choice**  
  Supporting children, young people and families in understanding what help is possible and what their choices may be
* **Working in partnership with families**  
  Supporting, wherever possible, those who know the child or young person well, know what they need, what works well for them and what might be less helpful
* **Respecting confidentiality and sharing information**  
  Sharing information that is relevant and proportionate while safeguarding children and young people’s right to confidentiality
* **Promoting the same values across all working relationships**  
  Recognising respect, patience, honesty, reliability, resilience and integrity are qualities valued by children, young people, their families and colleagues
* **Making the most of bringing together each worker’s expertise**  
  Respecting the contribution of others and co-operating with them, recognising that sharing responsibility does not mean acting beyond a worker’s competence or responsibilities
* **Co-ordinating help**  
  Recognising that children, young people and their families need practitioners to work together, when appropriate, to provide the best possible help
* **Building a competent workforce to promote children and young people’s wellbeing**  
  Committed to continuing individual learning and development and improvement of inter-professional practice.