



## Newsletter 2

### GIRFEC in Action: Building Futures with Young People.

#### **Spotlight: The Family Firm**

This edition focuses on GIRFEC in practice with care-experienced young people.

The Family Firm, established in Falkirk in June 2025, shows how GIRFEC principles can be brought to life for care experienced young people who face significant barriers to education, training and employment.

The Family Firm works with young people aged 16+ who are often disengaged from services, not in a positive destination and lacking confidence in their future. For many, traditional employability or classroom-based approaches had not worked, and some had not engaged in purposeful activity for years.

Through intensive one-to-one, trauma-responsive support, the Family Firm meets young people where they are at. A key focus is building trusting relationships, helping young people grow their confidence, widen their “window of tolerance”, and explore work opportunities at a pace that feels safe and achievable.

Working closely with Corporate Parents across Falkirk Council, the Family Firm links young people into work tasters, placements and employment opportunities in settings such as care homes, schools and council services. This gives young people meaningful experience, a sense of purpose and a growing belief that they belong in the workforce.

The impact has been significant: young people have moved into employment, developed practical skills, and begun to see themselves as capable, valued adults with a future.

### **Why this matters**

- Young people receive tailored support when mainstream routes haven't worked
- Relationships and trust are prioritised over quick outcomes
- Corporate Parenting is made real through practical opportunities

### **This is GIRFEC because...**

support is relationship-based, individualised and coordinated, offering the right help, at the right time, in a way that adapts to each young person's needs and aspirations