Children’s Services Plan

Listening to the Views of Children, Young People and Families

We are working to produce a Children’s Services Plan for Glasgow, to ensure that Glasgow is a good place to grow up.

We are looking for the views of children aged 0-25, from all sections of the community.

We need your thoughts and ideas on what the council, the health service and charities could do to make life better for children and young people.

Have your say

We would like you to help us, by telling us what you need.

We want to know what works for you and what areas we can improve on.

You can use a variety of ways to tell us what you think. You can:

- have a discussion with some-one, one-to-one or in a small group
- Draw a picture or take photos
- Create a video or a theatre performance
- Write a poem or a short story
What are Children’s Services?

- Services that all children and young people get, like Education and Health Care.
- Optional services that children and young people can use, like youth clubs and holiday activities.
- Specialist services for children and young people with greater needs, like support for children with disabilities.

Who provides Children’s Services?

In Glasgow, there are a range of agencies who together provide services for children, young people and their families. This includes:

- Glasgow City Council (Education and Social Work)
- The Health Service
- Police Scotland,
- Glasgow Life
- Charities and Community Organisations
- Other agencies who deliver children’s services

These organisations work together to produce a Children’s Services Plan, which takes account of the needs of children and young people from Glasgow.

What is a Children’s Services Plan?

The main aim of the Children’s Services Plan is to make sure that children and young people get the best start in life and grow up safe, healthy and happy.

The plan sets out all actions that are going to be taken by different organisations and groups to make things better for children and young people.
What does the plan say?

The plan says that the most important issues for children and young people are:

- Keep you safe from harm
- Make sure you are healthy and happy
- Get the support that families need
- Be prepared for life and work
- Improve life for people with care experience

Children’s Rights should be respected and child poverty should be taken into account.

Keeping you safe

Children and young people have a right to be safe and protected from harm

- Abuse is when someone does or says things that frighten you or cause you harm
- Neglect is when your needs are not being met
- Bullying is when someone is horrible to you on purpose

People who work with children and young people should check they are safe and take action if they are worried.

Healthy and happy

Being healthy means

- Eating healthy food
- Getting exercise and having places to play and have fun
- Feeling happy and loved
- Going to the doctors and dentists when you need to
- Having an adult you can trust to talk to

Support for families

- Parents or carers are the main people who look after their children, but sometimes they might need help with this
- We want to give parents the right help so that children grow up healthy and happy
Being prepared for life and work

This means:

- Having opportunities to learn new things and develop skills
- Feeling confident
- Getting support to help you get the most out of school
- Being well prepared for life and work when you leave school

Care Experience

- If things go wrong at home, children and young people can be taken into care
- They might go to live with a relative, into foster care or to a residential home
- The council has a responsibility to make sure that children and young people taken into care have the same chances and experiences as everyone else

Children’s Rights

The Plan respects Children’s Rights, such as; the right to health care, education and to be safe.

Children and young people also have rights to have their views taken into account on matters that affect them.

Child Poverty

In Glasgow, one in three children live in poverty. This might mean families can’t afford:

- Food or new clothes
- School trips
- Holidays or holiday activities

We have to think about this when planning services, to make sure that everyone can use them.

Feedback

Once we have all the responses, we will feed the views of children and young people into the next Children’s Services Plan.

We will also produce a report saying what people said – and what we did. We will send this to all organisations that took part, to pass on to the children and young people they spoke to.
Questions

1. Do you think the priorities in the Children’s Services Plan are the right ones?

2. What do you think are the most important issues for children and young people?
   - Keeping children safe
   - Healthy and happy
   - Supporting families
   - Being prepared for life and work
   - Improving Care Experience
   - Children’s Rights
   - Child Poverty

3. Why are these issues important?

4. What do you think works well?

5. What could we do to improve services for children and young people?

6. What other services for children and young people would you like to see improved?