

getting
it right
for every child
in Lanarkshire



Newsletter for services in South Lanarkshire 2nd Edition – July 2013

Introduction

Welcome to the second edition of the GIRFEC newsletter. The last few months have seen the continued development of the GIRFEC approach to children's services within South Lanarkshire. I am pleased this edition of the newsletter includes details about how parents and carers can gain information on GIRFEC via leaflets, DVD's, posters and websites. Parents and carers are essential to the GIRFEC process in offering children the best start in life. So providing them with as much information as possible about GIRFEC is in the best interest of all children.

April 2013 saw the Introduction of the Children and Young People's Bill to the Scottish Parliament. Major components of the GIRFEC approach are key to this Bill, such as the Named Person, a single planning process and wellbeing. The Bill is expected to become legislation in 2014 and through future newsletters we will keep you up to date with its progress.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this newsletter and to those implementing this process in your day to day work.

Robert Swift, Head of Children and Justice Services, South Lanarkshire Council

Updates:

Integrated Children's Services

Parent and Carers Information Leaflet and DVD

East Kilbride and Strathaven Integrating Children's Services have led the development of information resources which have been produced to promote the key messages of Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) to parents and carers. Pivotal to the success of this was the inclusion of parents/carers and staff from both East Kilbride and Strathaven and Clydesdale localities in the development. A number of consultations in the form of group discussions and questionnaires have taken place which has aided in the production of meaningful information resources.

The Parents and Carers GIRFEC Information Leaflet promotes the 8 well being outcomes and also the role of the lead professional, named person and integrated working. Parents and carers views on the well being indicators have been incorporated into the leaflet in a visual format and links with the 4 capacities in Curriculum For Excellence.

A further development was the production of a GIRFEC Parents and Carers DVD. The DVD provides a description of the GIRFEC principles and the importance of secure attachment being central to overall well-being. Parents and carers and children feature in the DVD again reinforcing the 8 well-being indicators and what these mean for parents/carers and children/young people.

Further information on the above resources can be provided from Irene Campbell, ICS Health Improvement Manager on 01355 235702 or by e mail at irene.campbell@ics.s-lanark.org.uk

Limited copies of the leaflet and DVD are available from Louise Young, Senior Clerical Assistant, GIRFEC Team on 01698 452877 or by email at louise.young@southlanarkshire.gov.uk In addition, the Information Leaflet and DVD will be available to download from www.girfecinlanarkshire.co.uk

You & Your Child Programme

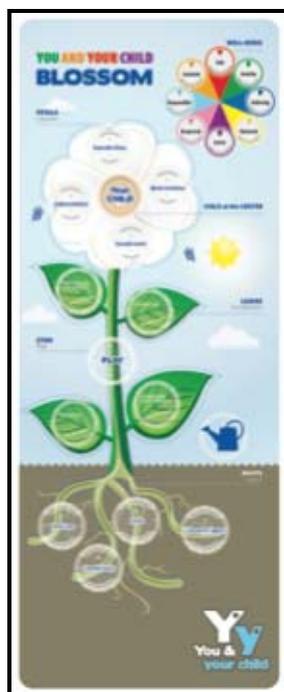
Through their experience of delivering parenting programmes the Clydesdale Family Support team recognised that having better knowledge and understanding of the ages and stages of child development would enable parents to improve their parenting capacity leading to enhanced long term outcomes for their children. Acknowledging this led to two family support workers in the team, with well established experience in early years education, developing, piloting and reviewing the You & Your Child programme with the following aims:

- Raise awareness that parent/carers have the lead role in promoting their child's development
- Provide understanding of age and stage of children's development
- Consider a child's needs and how to meet them
- Promote understanding of the importance of play experiences for children's learning
- Provide strategies to improve parent/child interaction
- Help strengthen parent/child relationships to promote positive behaviour
- Raise awareness of the Getting it right for every child and CfE language used in health, education and social work services.

The programme was designed to offer theoretical and practical input that is simple to understand and is delivered with a positive interactive approach to consolidate theory and enhance participants' learning experience. It is delivered over twelve weekly two hour sessions and requires facilitators to have previous experience of group work with parents as well as good background knowledge of child development theory and

practical experience of children from birth to age 8. It is designed to be fun, informative and stimulating.

Central to the programme are three interlinked visual resources. The You & Your Child Blossom banner which encompasses the other two main visual resources, the Help Your Child To Grow and Develop chart and the Child's Needs toolkit.



Collectively these three resources promote understanding of the areas of development, the child's needs, GIRFEC and CfE language and the well-being indicators.



Evaluation of the programme has shown parent's achievements in expected outcomes as follows; increased confidence in understanding their roles and responsibility, ability to meet the holistic needs of their children and make appropriate responses to their child's age and stage of development, capacity to engage and interact with their child through play, improved parent/child relationships impacting on better behaviour as well as clearer understanding of GIRFEC and CfE language and approach. In addition outcomes have been achieved for children in respect of more successful transition from nursery to school and strengthened relationships between home and statutory services.

Voluntary Sector

A GIRFEC roadshow event is taking place on 27th August for the voluntary sector in South Lanarkshire. This interactive event will provide direction and focus for the way forward in the voluntary sector. The aim of the event is to gain an overview of the current implementation levels of Getting it right for every child in the voluntary sector, looking at any issues or barriers that organisations may have come across. This will also be an opportunity for organisations to share examples of good practice.

The roadshow will also focus on the Early Years Collaborative to look at the aims of the Early Years Collaborative and the drivers that influence these aims. There will be an opportunity for colleagues to discuss what it means to their organisation and where the initiative sits with Getting it right for every child.

NHS Lanarkshire

Family Nurse Partnership in Lanarkshire

The Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) programme will be rolled out across Lanarkshire from 8th July 2013.

FNP is a licensed programme, developed in the US at the University of Colorado by Professor David Olds and has over 30 years of randomised controlled research.

The programme offers intensive support for teenage first-time mothers to give children the best possible start in life. Specially trained nurses will regularly visit first-time mothers under the age of 20 in their own homes to encourage and support them to adopt healthier lifestyles, provide good care for their babies and plan their futures.

FNP has 3 aims:

- to improve pregnancy outcomes
- improve child health and development
- and parents' economic self-sufficiency.

Clients are recruited in early pregnancy (100% by 28 weeks gestation).

The family nurses visit expectant mums in their homes every one or two weeks during pregnancy and throughout the first two years of their baby's life.



The research has shown significant benefits for young families in the short, medium and long term across a wide range of outcomes including:-

- improved early language development and academic achievement
- improvements in antenatal health
- reductions in children's injuries, neglect and abuse
- improved parenting practices and behaviour
- fewer subsequent pregnancies and greater intervals between births
- increased maternal employment and reduced welfare use
- increases in fathers' involvement
- reduced arrests and criminal behaviour for both children and mothers

In an international review by The Lancet in 2008 the FNP was named as one of only 2 programmes shown to prevent child maltreatment.

Cost savings in the US are substantial, ranging from \$17,000 to \$34,000 per child by the time they reach 15, with a \$3-5 return for every \$1 invested.

Scottish Landscape

Family Nurse Partnership in Scotland is currently being delivered in six NHS Board areas –Lothian, Tayside, Fife, Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Ayrshire and Arran and Highland.

The programme is presently funded by Scottish Government, Maternal & Child Health Division until autumn 2016.

Lanarkshire

An Advisory Board has been established with good representation from our Community Planning partners in both North and South Lanarkshire. Feedback from partner agencies has indicated that the FNP is a welcome addition to the current services offered in Lanarkshire. An Operational Group has also been established again with representation from our community planning partners.

Marion McPhillips and Susan Kayes are the Family Nurse Supervisors and each will supervise a team of 5 family nurses working throughout Lanarkshire. It is anticipated that between July 2013 and September 2016, 260 young families will benefit from this preventative programme.

The Family Nurse adopts the role of the Named Person until transfer to universal services when child is 2 years. Family Nurses will deliver an intensive version of HALL 4 programme.

Training

The Family Nurses have recently attended residential pregnancy training to further develop their skills to work in a strength based approach and concentrate on an expectant mother's intrinsic motivation to do the best for their child.

The FNP staff will utilise methods and resources based on theories of human ecology, self-efficacy and attachment. There will be also be a focus on building a strong therapeutic relationship between the client and the Family Nurse to facilitate behaviour change and to tackle the emotional problems that prevent some mothers and fathers caring well for their child.

Data

Data collection is an integral part of the FNP programme to demonstrate high quality programme replication for families and also demonstrate the demographic status of client's population and clients' progression towards the programme goals.

Two Data Managers have been appointed to support the programme.

Impact on Early Years

FNP will play a significant role in supporting achievement of the Early Years Collaborative stretch aims and staff will work closely with both statutory and voluntary services to improve outcomes for young families.

Other News:

New Getting Our Priorities Right Guidelines

New guidelines for GOPR have been introduced by the Scottish Government and key to the services provided by practitioners working with children and families affected by problem parental alcohol/or drug use are a number of elements of GIRFEC. The Scottish Government has ensured that the role of the Named Person, Lead Professional and Co-ordinated Support Plan is central to locally agreed protocols. Full information on the guidelines are published on the Scottish Governments website: www.scotland.gov.uk



If you have any questions regarding this newsletter or would like further information about GIRFEC please contact:

Louise Young
Senior Clerical Assistant
Getting it right for every child
louise.young@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Further information can also be found on our website:

www.girfecinlanarkshire.co.uk