John Logie Baird

**GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child) Policy**

Getting it right for every child was implemented when it was realised that to improve outcomes for vulnerable children, agencies had to come together putting the child first. It is about collaborating information, identifying the needs of the child and implementing change. Information sharing is a vital part of early intervention that is at the heart of G.I.R.F.E.C. Sharing information at the right time with the appropriate professionals can improve outcomes for children and families. Practitioners should not wait until things escalate before sharing information.

**G.I.R.F.E.C has ten Core Values**

1. A focus on improving outcomes for children, young people and their families based on shared understanding of wellbeing.

2. A common approach to gaining consent and to sharing information where appropriate.

3. An integral role for children, young people and families in assessment, planning and intervention.

4. A co-ordinated and unified approach to identifying concerns, assessing needs, agreeing actions and outcomes, based on the well-being indicators.

5. Streamlined planning assessment and decision making processes that lead to the right help at the right time.

6. Consistent high standards of co-operation, joint working and communication, where more than one agency needs to be involved.

7. A lead professional to co-ordinate and monitor multi-agency activity where necessary or A named person when an agency is involved.

8. Maximising the skilled workforce across all services for children, young people and families.

9. Maximising the skilled workforce to address needs and risks as early as possible.

10. The capacity to share demographic, assessment and planning information electronically within and across agency boundaries.

The children’s and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 supports and incorporated G.I.R.F.E.C elements it provides that information should be shared between services to support or safeguard the wellbeing of the child. The Golden Rules of sharing information, adhere to the principles of the Data Protection 2018. Share information that is necessary, relevant and proportionate, record, inform child/family why and seek consent where needed.

At JLB ELCC, all staff incorporate the Wellbeing wheel with the indicators:

Safe

Healthy

Achieving

Nurtured

Active

Respected

Responsible

Included

In our planning and daily routines, we ensure children’s rights and choices, putting children at the heart of planning. Each child has a key-worker who uses the wellbeing wheel which represent the basic requirements for all children and young people to grow and develop and reach their full potential. Key workers observe and record stages of development, progression and concerns to help complete an overall view of the child. If there are any concerns about an individual child information is gathered using observations. Parent’s involvement is vital to ensure consistent and reachable aims and strategies are put in place. JLB ELCC maintain strong links collaborating and sharing information with other agencies/services.

In 1989, governments across the world promised all children the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention says what countries must do so that all children grow as healthy as possible, can learn at nursery/school, are protected, have their views listened to, are fairly treated. **At JLB ELCC we respect Children’s Rights.**

**Article 1 (definition of the child):** Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention.

**Article 3 (best interests of the child)**: The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

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