

Glasgow City Integrated Children's Services Plan (2023-26) Summary



What is a Children's Services Plan?

In Scotland, every local government must make a Children's Services Plan every three years. The plan was written by children, young people and the services who support them. This plan has included Education, Health, Social Care, Third Sector, Police Scotland, Community Neighbourhoods and Sustainability and Glasgow Life.

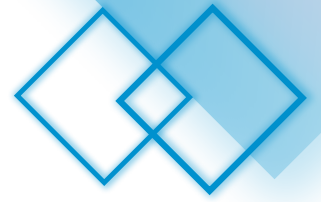


What does the plan focus on?

There are six priority areas Glasgow will focus on over the next three years.

- 1. Safe and Valued:** Children and young people are safe, protected and valued in their communities and neighbourhoods.
- 2. Health and Wellbeing:** Children and young people's health and wellbeing is promoted and improved.
- 3. Poverty:** Children, young people and their families receive flexible support to address the impact of poverty and the cost of living crisis.
- 4. Family and Community Support:** Children and young people are well supported in their families and communities.
- 5. Education and Life Opportunities:** Children and young people are supported to achieve their full potential through excellent and inclusive education, employment and life opportunities.
- 6. Voice and Influence:** Children and young people are involved and included, and their views are influential in the development and delivery of services.

How was the plan created?



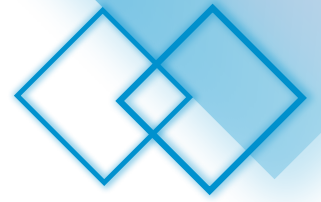
Children and young people from Glasgow shared their thoughts and experiences. Over **220 children and young people** helped shape the plan. They used art, stories and drama to explain what they needed. This helped to focus the plan on what really matters to them.

The children and young people who helped had a range of experiences. This included experience of disabilities, caring responsibilities, LGBTQIA+ young people, unaccompanied asylum seeking young people, and young people with disabilities and caring responsibilities.

The plan was informed by those working in Glasgow committed to helping children, young people and families.



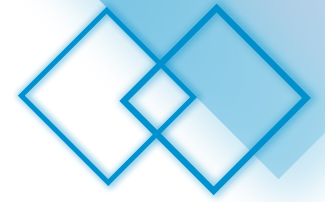
What happens next?



The people in charge of the plan will see whether it's working. They'll ask children, young people, families and workers for feedback to make changes where needed. The plan is all about making sure every child and young person in Glasgow has the chance to grow up safe, healthy and happy. See below for examples of how Glasgow will deliver on each of these priority areas.



Priority 1 Safe and Valued



The first priority is about keeping children and young people safe and protected in their homes, communities and neighbourhoods. This means doing everything we can to support children to live healthy, happy lives with their families, and we will make sure children feel connected to the people they love.

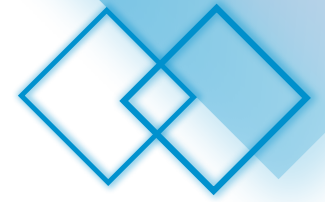


Some of the things we've promised to do are:

- Ensure safe and equal access to play, culture, leisure and sports activities within local communities.
- Talk to children about how to stay safe online.
- Further improve anti-bullying approaches in schools to better support those experiencing racism, LGBTQIA+ bullying, sexual harassment and other abuse.
- Improve aftercare support to prevent young people experiencing homelessness.
- Work together to support families who have experienced domestic abuse.
- Provide mental health supports for young mothers before their babies are born.

More actions can be found in the [Children's Services Plan, p.44.](#)

Priority 2 Health and Wellbeing



The second priority is about improving children and young people's physical and mental health. We will listen to children and young people about what helps their health and wellbeing and make it easier for them to get help when they need it. We are also working together to better support children and young people who have worries about sexual health, neurodiversity or mental health.

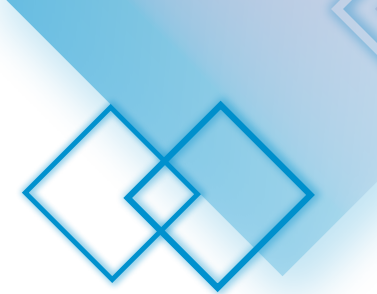


Some of the things we've promised to do are:

- Delivery of the [Universal Health Visiting Pathway](#), complemented by additional supports where required to improve children, young people and families' health and wellbeing.
- Continue [Family Nurse Partnership Programme](#) to ensure that all young women aged 19 and under and pregnant with their first baby are offered support from early pregnancy until the child's 2nd birthday.
- Keep developing our mental health services for children and young people, especially the [Youth Health Service](#).
- Better care for new born babies ([UNICEF Baby Friendly Award](#), and [Family Nurse Partnership](#)).
- Provide age-appropriate sexual health education to keep young people safe and healthy.

More actions can be found in the [Children's Services Plan, p.50](#).

Priority 3 Poverty



Our third priority is about tackling child poverty. Children and young people were concerned about families not having enough money. Many families are finding it hard to pay for food, clothes and housing. Part of the work to tackle poverty across the city is enabling staff to work together, connect funding, and learn from each other so families receive the right support at the right time ([Child Poverty Pathfinder](#) and [No Wrong Door](#)).

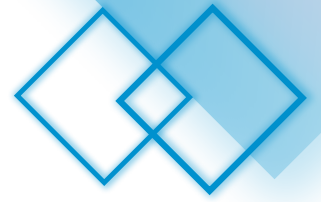


Some of the things we've promised to do are:

- Continue to develop income maximisation approaches to ensure that families are receiving all of the benefits they are entitled to.
- Develop integrated and seamless financial and family support, based on consistently high quality, strengths-based and trauma informed practice.
- Expand use of data to proactively identify families at risk of experiencing poverty.
- Ongoing implementation of the holiday food and activity programme.
- Delivery of employability support for parents and carers where needed.

More actions can be found in the [Children's Services Plan, p.56](#).

Priority 4 Family and Community Support



Our fourth priority is about supporting families. Glasgow services work to support families to stay together and to thrive.



Glasgow's approach does this by:

- Working with families' strengths.
- keep brother and sisters together where it is safe to do so.
- Understanding families are the experts in their own lives.
- Providing practical, social and financial support.
- Helping families as early as possible to get the right support at the right time, from the right person.
- Supporting families to decide how their care should work.

Over time, this focus on strengths-based partnership work has led to a significant reduction in the number of children accommodated - **from 965 in March 2020 to 675 in March 2023.**

More actions can be found in the [Children's Services Plan, p.60.](#)

Priority 5 Education and Life Opportunities



The fifth priority is about supporting children, young people and families to achieve their potential through inclusive learning, education and employment opportunities, including building families' readiness to engage at all stages of their development journey.

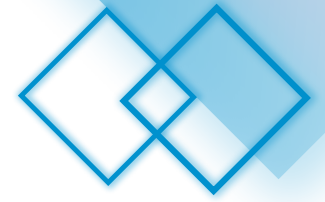


Some of the things we've promised to do are:

- Ensure Glasgow's children have the right education place for them that suits their needs.
- Improve reading language and maths skills in all pupils.
- Roll out of the [Nurture Programme](#) in every Glasgow school.
- Offer pupils and parents more ways to share their views with us.
- Support more school leavers into jobs and training.
- Offer help to care experienced children, children who need additional support and children who have been excluded from school in the past.

More actions under the Safety priority can be found in the [Children's Services Plan, p.64](#).

Priority 6 Involved and Included



Children and young people have a right to be heard, and for their views to be taken seriously (see the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child UNCRC Article 12](#)). This means Glasgow must work together to understand the views and experiences of children and young people to shape policy and practice.



Some of the things we've promised to do are:

- Continue to embed the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) in our work.
- Employ experts-by-experience to better support young people from marginalised groups.
- Involve children and young people in the creation of plans and policies.
- Offer children and young people more ways they can share their views with us that suit them (e.g. social media, discussion groups, places where they can ask questions etc).

More actions can be found in the [Children's Services Plan, p.68](#).

