

Embedding children's rights and promoting participation

NHS Education for Scotland is a national health board and is responsible for providing education, training, workforce development, data and technology for health and social care in Scotland. NHS Education for Scotland is firmly committed to improving population health, reducing inequalities, and working nationally and locally with partners to make a positive and lasting impact to the wellbeing of the people of Scotland. NHS Education for Scotland supports quality care and outcomes for every person in Scotland and does so by preparing and shaping the workforce for the future. This is evident within the current NHS Education for Scotland Strategy. The NHS Education for Scotland Strategy also includes commitments to The Promise and to making Scotland the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up.

Training and learning about children's rights

NHS Education for Scotland has provided learning sessions and worked with other organisations to share learning and experiences. Part of this work is responding to the needs of workforces across Scotland, through learning events such as this webinar series. NHS Education for Scotland also works in partnership with colleagues and organisations to design resources which can be used to promote interprofessional learning.

Work at NHS Education for Scotland is varied and recognises the opportunity to strengthen how to work well together and share activities and actions to promote, protect and progress children's rights. With an already established Women, Children, Young People and Families Group, and active participation across directorates, NHS Education for Scotland works to ensure a clear focus in achieving a commitment to children's rights, and has recently set up a Children's Rights Subgroup.

Children's Rights Subgroup

The Children's Rights Subgroup brings together colleagues including educators and specialist leads across different programmes of work, for example, Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions, Psychology, Dental, and the NHS Scotland Academy. NHS Education for Scotland has prioritised an initial focus on stakeholder engagement, helping explore ways to include children and young people more in work at NHS Education for Scotland. This is in recognition of the underpinning principle of the UNCRC to involve children and young people in all decisions that affect them, and supporting their engagement in reporting processes.

Through the subgroup, NHS Education for Scotland is capturing activities relevant to children's rights, understanding what is being done well and what could be improved. While the subgroup is a recent development, NHS Education for Scotland is already seeing the strengths in working together to progress children's rights.

Children's rights learning outcomes

By having a group focused on children's rights, NHS Education for Scotland is working on improving children and young people's participation, supporting workers to learn and develop their children's human rights approach, and ensuring that children's rights are embedded in planning, strategies, and reporting.



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