

# Realising UNCRC as Corporate Parents

Post-training Resource Pack









#### What is the UNCRC?

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is an international agreement setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every single child.

You can read the full convention <u>here</u>. You can read a summary <u>here</u>.

In addition to the main body of the CRC, there have been three optional protocols added to it at later years.

Protecting children in armed conflict

Protecting children from sale, prostitution and pornography
Allowing children to submit complaints, appeals and petitions



## What is the **UNCRC**?

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) consists of 54 articles, that can be summarised under so-called '3 Ps'.

#### **Provision**

ensuring child's growth and development

#### **Participation**

Inclusion in decisionmaking and taking child's views seriously

#### **Protection**

protection from exploitation, abuse, violence and neglect





## The International Human Rights Framework

#### <u>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</u>

(Adopted by the UN in 1948)



#### Nine core human rights treaties

- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child





# The Schools of Thought in Children's Rights

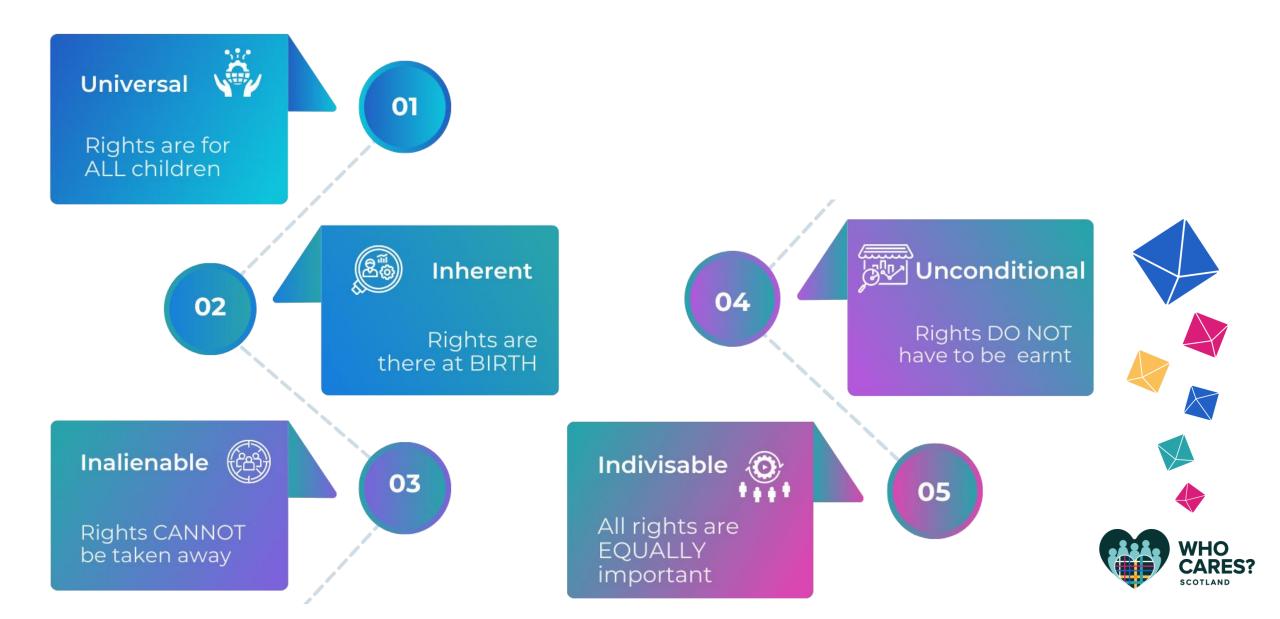
	Paternalism	Welfare	Emancipation	Liberation
Childhood Image	Becoming	Becoming and being	Being and becoming	Being
Competence	Incompetent	Incompetent, unless	Competent, unless	Competent
Rights of Children	Protection	Protection Provision Participation	Participation Provision Protection	Participaiton

#### The Preamble of the UNCRC





## The Principles of Children's Rights



## UNCRC – <u>General Principles</u>



Best interest of the child



Life, survival and development



Respect for children's views



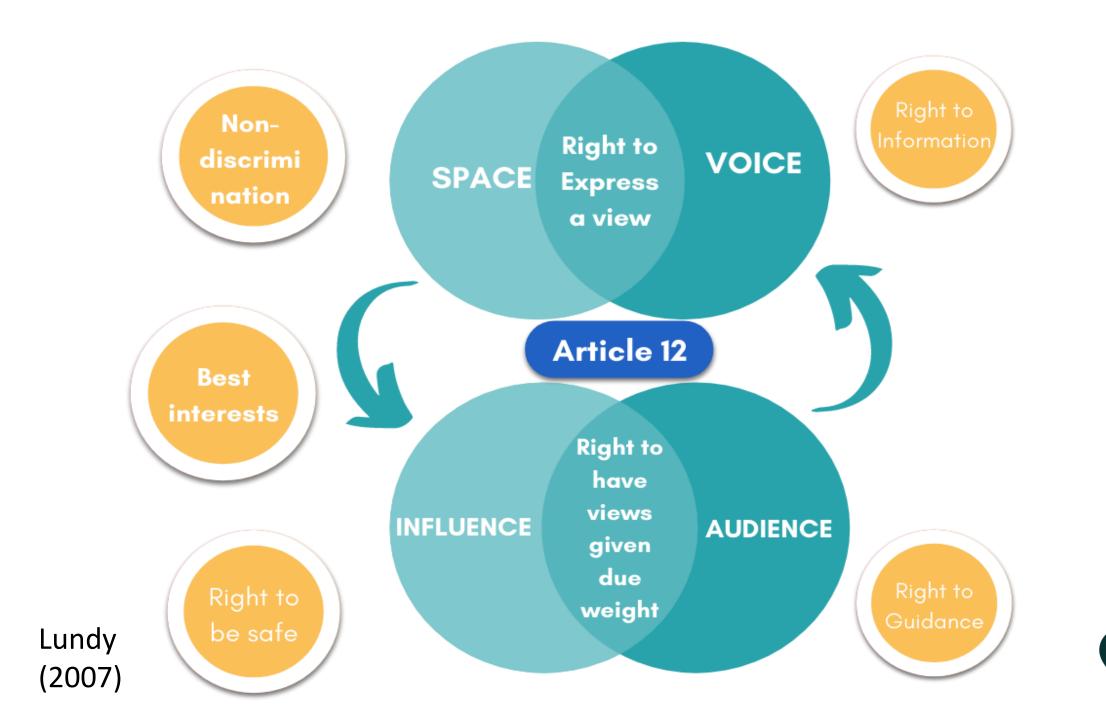
Non-discrimination

The general principles of the UN Convention on the Rights lay the foundation of the document – as they set basic values underpinning all other articles.

- You can read the advice and guidance of the Scottish Government on children and young people's participation – here
- You can also explore the <u>Lundy</u> <u>Model of Child Participation</u>









Although children's rights are indivisible and Care Experienced children and young people are entitled to every single right listed under the UNCRC, there are certain articles of the convention that specifically uphold the rights of children in the care system

- Non-discrimination (<u>Article 2</u>)
- Best interest of the Child (<u>Article 3</u>)
- Separation from parents (<u>Article 9</u>)
- Parental responsibilities and state assistance (<u>Article 18</u>)
- Children unable to live with their family (<u>Article 20</u>)
- Review of treatment in care (<u>Article 25</u>)
- Adoption (<u>Article 21</u>)
- Juvenile <u>justice</u> (<u>Article 40</u>)



#### UNCRC and the Promise



Scotland must respect, uphold, champion and defend the rights of children and recognise that their rights are most often realised through relationships with loving, attentive caregivers. Scotland must fully incorporate and uphold the UNCRC.

Scotland must implement the rights of the child in a way that does not reinforce a focus on policy, process and procedure but supports the ability of children and those around them to connect and develop relationships and cultures that uphold their rights as a matter of course.

Read more about the Plan 21-24 – which lists Children's Rights as one of its fundamentals - <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.



## **Incorporation Bill**



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill passed unanimously by the Scottish Parliament in March 2021



The UK Supreme Court decides that certain provisions of the Bill would be outside the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament



The Bill will now return to the Scottish
Parliament so that the Court's
concerns are further considered

- Read the United Nations
   Convention on the Rights of the Child implementation: introductory guidance published by Scottish
   Ministers here
- Read an accessible resource on The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: a guide for children and young people
   here



## Rights-based approach to decision-making









**RIGHTS-HOLDERS** 

#### CORPORATE PARENTING

#### What is Corporate Parenting?

An organisation's performance of actions necessary to uphold the rights and safeguard the wellbeing of a looked after child or care leaver, and through which physical, emotional, spiritual, social and educational development is promoted.

- What Care Experienced people expect from Corporate Parents – <u>Chloe's</u> <u>perspective</u>.
- The list of Corporate Parents under Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- Statutory guidance on Part 9 (Corporate Parenting) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
- <u>Video Resource</u> on Corporate Parenting.



Scottish Government, Statutory Guidance (2015)



#### CORPORATE PARENTING DUTIES



Be **alert** to matters which, or which might, adversely affect the wellbeing of looked after children and care leavers.



Assess the needs of those children and young people for services and support.



**Promote** the interests of those children and young people.



Seek to provide looked after children and care leavers with **opportunities** to participate in activities designed to promote their wellbeing.



Take action to help looked after children and care leavers **access** opportunities and make use of the services and access support they provide.



Take any other action you consider appropriate for the purpose of **improving** the way in which you exercise your functions in relation to looked after children and care leavers.







\*(THIS IS THE CATEGORY THAT INCLUDES
ACCOUNTANT IN BANKRUPTCY: DISCLOSURE
SCOTLAND: EDUCATION SCOTLAND: THE SCOTTISH
PRISON SERVICE: THE SCOTTISH PUBLIC PENSIONS
AGENCY: STUDENT AWARDS AGENCY FOR
SCOTLAND: AND TRANSPORT SCOTLAND)

## Principles of the Rights-based Approach





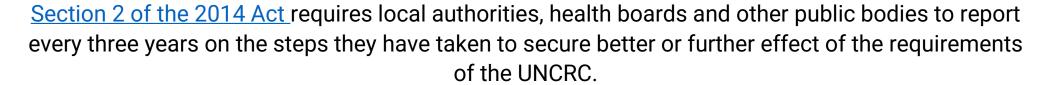
# Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA)



The Child Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment (CRWIA) is the approach that officials use in order to provide Ministers, stakeholders and the public with evidence that proper consideration has been given to the impact that a policy/measure will have on children and young people up to the age of 18.



<u>Section 1 of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act</u> 2014 – requirements from Scottish Ministers.



Schedule 1 of the 2014 Act provides the list of public authorities to which section 2 applies.

Child rights and wellbeing impact assessments: <u>list</u> – Published by the Scottish Government



#### **ENOC** Model

- 1. Screening describe proposal and impact on children if full CRIA go to Stage 2
- **2. Scoping** aim of proposal and the rights framework
- 3. Gather evidence identify quantitative and qualitative data
- 4. Scrutinising children's involvement analysis of how children are involved
- 5. Assess impact identify positive, negative, neutral impacts
- **6. Conclusions and recommendations** if negative impact, suggest alternatives
- 7. Publish CRIA evidence conclusions reached, and recommendations made
- **8. Monitor and review** the CRIA may be subject to review













#### Additional Resources

- You can access more information on the professional, independent advocacy services we provide to Care Experienced children and young people – <a href="here">here</a>.
- You can find out about the support we provide to Corporate Parents here.
- You can read the Briefings and evidence responses we have submitted around the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill - <a href="here">here</a>.
- You can read the 'Navigating the World of Rights' Report published by WC?S <a href="here">here</a>.
- Find the 'State of Children's Rights in Scotland' Report published by Together <a href="here">here</a>.
- Find out more about My Rights, My Say <u>here</u>.
- Read more about Activate Your Rights and access the resources <a href="here">here</a>.
- Publications of the Scottish Government around Children's Rights training tool, <u>Human Rights</u>.



#### Please keep in touch



Check out our Learning Hub www.corporateparenting.org.uk



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