

## Authors

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'Keep the child at the centre, involved in the decisions and LISTEN to what they are telling you.'

## Introduction

- Health inequity disproportionately affects children and young people, yet their rights and voices can be overlooked in healthcare settings.
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is now incorporated into Scottish law
- There is a need for health and social care professionals to understand and implement a rights-based approach in practice.
- This initiative aimed to enhance workforce knowledge and confidence in children's rights through short, accessible learning sessions.

## Aim

To enhance understanding of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 to a wide audience

## Method

- Bite-Sized Learning: Key information delivered in concise, engaging formats.
- Flexible Scheduling: Sessions delivered at various times and on different days to suit workforce needs.




## UNCRC Incorporation Act

NES are commissioned to offer support all health boards with the implementation of the UNCRC (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024.

- The Act came in to **full power on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024**
- Makes it **unlawful** for health boards or services to act against UNCRC requirements.
- Allows children, young people, and representatives to **enforce rights in court**.
- Empowers the Children's Commissioner to **take legal action**.
- Requires public authorities to report on UNCRC compliance every three years (replacing the 2014 duty).


## Why 30 minute sessions worked

 Time-Efficient: Short sessions fit easily into busy schedules.

 Focused content improves engagement and understanding.

 Signposting: Promote resources to support learning

[GIRFEC & Childrens Rights learn site](#)

 Wider Reach: Flexible scheduling maximised participation across NHS Scotland.

'Thinking about how to give children more agency, especially those who are non-verbal, thank you!'



## Takeaways

✓ By equipping professionals with knowledge and confidence, these sessions contribute to a culture of rights-based practice, ensuring children and young people's voices are recognised and upheld in healthcare settings.

✓ This initiative demonstrates how short, flexible learning can raise awareness and drive change to uphold children's rights across health services

'providing written and verbal child-friendly information to allow children to make their own informed decision rather than pitching at parents'

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