

Relationships Scotland Statement of Support for The Promise

The Relationships Scotland Network (which consists of the National Office in Edinburgh and 21 Member Services across Scotland) share the Scottish Government's vision for a safer and stronger Scotland where communities can flourish. The Promise is the blueprint for change following the Independent Care Review in 2020 agreed by the Scottish Government with cross party support that the country would Keep the Promise to care experienced children and young people in Scotland and those on the edge of the care system.

The Promise is part of a framework of legislation, policies and principles designed to improve outcomes for children and young people growing up in Scotland that also includes *Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)*, *The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)* and the *Children (Scotland) Act 2020*. These inform and shape our work with families across Scotland.

The Promise recognises that in order for children to grow up loved, safe and respected, everyone plays a part in shaping and developing a systemic approach which actively supports the voice of the child. Relationships Scotland champions healthy relationships and therefore we recognise that across all member services, the range of preventative and early intervention support provided to all individuals and families is integral for children and young people to thrive.

We recognise that as a network there is a lot that has been done, however there is still a lot to do in terms of further areas for improvement. It is therefore our ethical responsibility to fully commit to the principals of the Promise

- That ALL children must be listened to and meaningfully and appropriately involved in the decision-making about their care
- That all those involved in a child's care must be properly listen and respond to what children want and need
- There must be a compassionate, caring decision-making culture focused on children and those that they trust

The Relationships Scotland network shares the ambition to strive for excellence in policy, practice and culture so Scotland can **#KeepThePromise** and ensure that every child grows up loved, safe and respected and able to realise their full potential.