

### Children and Young People (Scotland) Act implementation timeline

The Children and Young (Scotland) Act 2014 was passed in the Scottish Parliament on 19 February 2014 and received Royal Assent on 27 March 2014.

This table provides implementation dates for the major provisions relevant to the work of the Care Inspectorate, all of which are due to come into effect by the end of 2016. Please note that the dates outlined are based on Scottish Government forecasts and may be subject to change.

<p><b>From 1 August 2014</b></p>	<p><b>Early learning and childcare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The amount and flexibility of funded early learning and childcare increased from 475 hours a year to a minimum of 600 hours for three and four year olds, and for two year olds who are, or have been at any time since turning two, looked after or subject to a kinship care order. Two year olds from workless households are also eligible for the provision.</li> </ul>
<p><b>From 1 April 2015</b></p>	<p><b>Looked after children and young people</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All young people in residential, foster or kinship care can stay in their care placement until they are 21 years old.</li> <li>Care leavers can access aftercare support up to the age of 26.</li> <li>Local authorities must notify Scottish Ministers and the Care Inspectorate of the deaths of care leavers in receipt of 'Aftercare' or 'Continuing Care'.</li> <li>A range of public bodies, including the Care Inspectorate, have new corporate parenting duties towards all care experienced children and young people.</li> </ul> <p><b>Children's rights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministers and a range of public bodies, including the Care Inspectorate, are expected to issue a report every three years on how they have taken the UNCRC into account.</li> </ul>

<b>From 1 August 2015</b>	<p><b>Early learning and childcare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligibility for 600 hours of early learning and childcare is further extended to include two year olds who are eligible for free school meals.</li> </ul>
<b>From 1 April 2016</b>	<p><b>Looked after children and young people</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local authorities are required to refer all children registered for adoption, and all those approved as prospective adoptive parents, to the Scottish Adoption Register.</li> <li>• The Kinship Care Order is established to enhance support and legal entitlements for kinship carers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commissioner for Children and Young People</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The powers of Scotland’s Commissioner for Children and Young People are extended to include the undertaking of investigations in relation to individual children and young people.</li> </ul>
<b>From 1 August 2016</b>	<p><b>Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children and young people from birth to 18 years old should have access to a Named Person.</li> <li>• A single planning process should be in place to support children who require it through the Child’s Plan.</li> <li>• Public bodies have new duties to coordinate the planning, design and delivery of services for children and young people with a focus on improving wellbeing outcomes, and report collectively on how they are improving those outcomes.</li> <li>• A statutory definition of ‘wellbeing’, based on the SHANARRI indicators, is established, although this has already commenced for the purposes of early learning and childcare.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>Looked after children and young people</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local authorities are to provide a range of 'relevant services', such as information or advice/counselling, to children (and their families) at risk of becoming looked after.</li></ul>
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