

Response ID ANON-ZQZP-H763-W

Submitted to **Supporting Children's Learning Code of Practice**

Submitted on **2017-09-08 15:01:17**

Questions

The introduction provides information on what the guidance is about, how the guidance should be used, and the audience for the guidance.

Not Answered

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 1 – Summary of the Additional Support for Learning Act

Not Answered

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 2- Additional Support Needs

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 2 Section 18.

Homeless Action Scotland is pleased that the guidance recognises homelessness as a disrupting factor on a child's education. In the 2008 publication, 'Youth homelessness in the UK', Quilgars, Johnsen and Pleace state that,

"-Young people from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds and/or experiencing disruption or trauma in childhood are at increased risk of homelessness, and a significant minority experienced violence in the parental home.

-Homelessness can instigate or compound existing mental health and/or drug misuse problems amongst young people. There is a strong association between homelessness and withdrawing from education, employment or training, with a discord evident between the welfare benefit system and employability initiatives."

Homelessness affects children and young people in all respects of well-being as described within the Well Being Indicators (SHANARRI) that form the core of GIRFEC. This has been evidenced in several ways over the past 40 years, but the simplest explanation is described by the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) framework: the more complex trauma that a child experiences the more likely they are to become homeless in later years. Only by increasing resilience factors can children improve their chances of achieving a settled and productive life. Of these resilience factors, continued positive family communication and participation in education are the two main mitigations to prevent chaotic and damaging outcomes. (See <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/> for more information on ACEs)

Chapter 3- Meeting Additional Support Needs

Don't know

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

The guidance proposed seems unclear on the role that the voluntary/non-profit sector plays in supporting young people through schools, referring only to "other agencies." These "other agencies" can include mediation, child trauma or bereavement counselling, children's rights, street-based outreach, youth work or intensive play therapies. etc. There is no guarantee that all necessary services are available in each local authority.

The guidance should make explicit the statutory services that have the core responsibility to provide for children who cannot access third sector resources in their locality.

Chapter 4- School Attendance: Rights, Responsibilities and Placing Requests

No

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

The guidance should provide some information on alternatives to mediation if the child is not-attending school, etc., due to being bullied for being LGBT and/or is unable or unwilling to disclose this to a family member. Being LGBT alone can be a challenging time for a young person. If that young person is also in care, or reliant on a classroom assistant, or requires an amanuensis to write it can be even harder, and more exclusory.

Chapter 5- Co-ordinated Support Plans

Don't know

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 6- Transitions

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 7 – Working with Children and Families

Don't know

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 8 – Resolving Disagreements

Don't know

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Chapter 9 – General Provisions

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Annexes and Glossary

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of additional information which should be included or removed and a brief reason for it.:

Format

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of suggestions for improvement.:

Additional Comments

Please provide comments in the box below.:

The Section 70 (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of suggestions for improvement.:

The Additional Support for Learning (Collection of Data) (Scotland) Regulations 2017

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of suggestions for improvement.:

The Additional Support for Learning Dispute Resolution (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2017

Yes

If you selected no, please provide details of suggestions for improvement.:

About You

What is your name?

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Are you responding as an individual or an organisation?

Organisation

What is your organisation?

Organisation:

Homeless Action Scotland

The Scottish Government would like your permission to publish your consultation response. Please indicate your publishing preference:

Publish response only (without name)

We will share your response internally with other Scottish Government policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for Scottish Government to contact you again in relation to this consultation exercise?

Yes

Evaluation

Please help us improve our consultations by answering the questions below. (Responses to the evaluation will not be published.)

Matrix 1 - How satisfied were you with this consultation?:

Please enter comments here.:

Matrix 1 - How would you rate your satisfaction with using this platform (Citizen Space) to respond to this consultation?:

Please enter comments here.: