

Issue

A consistent approach to Inclusion is essential across Scottish Education to ensure parity across authorities and to enable schools to Get it Right for Every Child.

Headline position

An Inclusion task group with input from Scottish Government, AHDS and other professionals should be formed to standardise GIRFEC policy and practice to support all our young people in achieving their potential. This should include a clear focus on early intervention and nurturing approaches.

Full position

Despite commitment to the principles of Inclusion and a determination to deliver on the indicators of good practice identified, many schools and school leaders face challenges which make inclusion more difficult to achieve. Considerable challenges which must be recognised when considering school progress in this area include budget cuts, staffing difficulties and increased workload.

Genuine inclusion can be achieved through appropriate:

- Administrative practice in relation to planning and record keeping which is consistent across Scotland
- Provision which is suited to the individual needs of the child or young person's needs (physical, behavioural, educational, social or emotional).
- Relevant training for all staff.
- Resources which are appropriate to the individual needs of the child or young person.
- Staffing levels which are dictated by the individual needs of the child or young person.

AHDS believes that sufficient resources should be made available to ensure the individual needs of the child or young person remain the priority and that the views of the child are taken into consideration.