



Everyone Has a Story

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Glossary of terms

PDI - the Partnership Drugs Initiative promotes voluntary sector work with vulnerable children and young people affected by drug and alcohol issues (either their own or that of a parent/ carer).

For this Project

Action Learning Set - the group of practitioners that met during the course of this project to collate, reflect and analyse the stories from the young people they were supporting.

Participatory Approach - the overall approach taken to deliver this resource and report, based on the involvement of a number of partners; children and young people, academics, practitioners, policy makers and local decision makers, to help inform and guide the process at all stages.

Consent - the process undertaken to ensure that children and young people understood and were happy with their involvement in any aspect of this project.

Evidence - information gathered from a range of sources; academic literature, views from young people and views from practitioners that helps to inform and improve understanding and knowledge.

Story - a way of communicating and sharing thoughts, feelings, views or experiences. For the purposes of this project stories have been collated by practitioners, reflecting conversations and experiences shared by a child or young person supported by them.

Blueprint - a design, pattern or concept that can be followed to support the development of a physical output.

Practitioner - any worker/professional, either in the third or public sector, providing direct support to children, young people and families whose parents are at any stage of their own recovery journey or whose parents are still experiencing problematic use of drugs and/or alcohol.

Service - any third or public sector service that is providing direct support, advice and assistance to children, young people and families.

Whole-family approach - a package of practical and therapeutic support that will recognise the needs of each individual member of the family as well as provide support the family, in one setting.

Children, Young People and Families

GIRFEC - 'Getting It Right For Every Child' a national strategy that aims to improve child wellbeing. The strategy focuses on better meeting the needs of children and young people through well-co-ordinated support, the implementation of a named person and promoting the eight wellbeing indicators.

GOPR - 'Getting Our Priorities Right', provides practice guidance for practitioners working with children, young people and families affected by substance issues.

Early Intervention - Scottish Government principles that promote service intervention for vulnerable children and families before problems materialise. An emphasis is placed on reducing inequality and building the capacity of families, children and communities through sustained and effective intervention.

Attachment - is a deep and enduring emotional bond that connects one person to another across time and space (Ainsworth, 1973; Bowlby, 1969).

Resilience - overcoming adversity and having the ability to adapt to change and set-backs.

Trauma - the concept of trauma is used to describe multiple distressing experiences, such as neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse or domestic violence. A traumatic experience may be a one off incident, or a re-occurring event that becomes a part of day to day reality.

Kinship Care - refers to the care of children by extended family or a close family friend. The Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 defined a kinship carer as "a person who is related to the child or a person with whom the child has a pre-existing relationship."

Formal Kinship Care - children who are looked after and are placed in formal kinship care arrangements by the local authority.

Informal Kinship Care - children who are living with extended family through a completely private arrangement, with potentially no local authority involvement.

Looked after children - looked after children and young people refers to those cared for by the local authority. This may refer to regular contact for an individual with social services while they remain in the family home, or refer to a child or young person who is cared for within residential care.

Young Carers - a young carer is someone under the age of 18 who cares for a relative with a disability or condition, e.g. illness or substance issues. In this paper we also use the term 'role reversal' which refers to the ways children may foster the role and responsibilities of a parent.

Drug and Alcohol

ADP - Alcohol and Drug Partnerships are responsible for developing local strategies to deliver improved core and local outcomes on the basis of local need, and for making investment decisions to achieve these.

Parental substance issues - substance issues refers to the misuse of illegal, prescribed and over the counter drugs and alcohol. The literature reflects the diverse definitions around the use of substances. For the purposes of this paper, we refer to parental substance issues and problematic use of drugs and/or alcohol to focus on the period where use of substance is seen to have harmful effects on the individual and their children.

Recovery - for the purpose of this project; a person in recovery is one who is progressing towards a substance free life and looking to make positive changes in all areas of their life; family, health, work and community.

Relapse - for someone return to former levels of problematic use of drugs and alcohol or other behaviours associated with problematic use.

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Resources

Resources and Tools

Provided here is a list of some of the specific resources discussed by the Action Learning Practitioners and Reference Group that are useful in supporting engagement and active listening with children and young people.

[Every Child's Right to Heard](#) - A Resource Guide on the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child General Comment No. 12 (UNICEF and Save the Children)



[Rory Learning Resource \(Alcohol Focus Scotland\)](#) - a learning resource aimed at children of primary school age who are affected by a problem drinking parent to help them feel less confused or guilty about what is happening and encourage them to talk to an adult they trust.



[The Huge Bag of Worries \(Children 1st\)](#) - a learning resource to help young children explore and understand their worries. Similar books and supportive materials are available from a range of publishers.

[Envison Cards](#) can be used in different ways to help people talk about their stories and experiences.



[Gaining Children's Views](#) - a resource developed by the Partnership Drugs Initiative containing the experiences and tools used by practitioners working with children and young people on how engage with evaluation processes.

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