

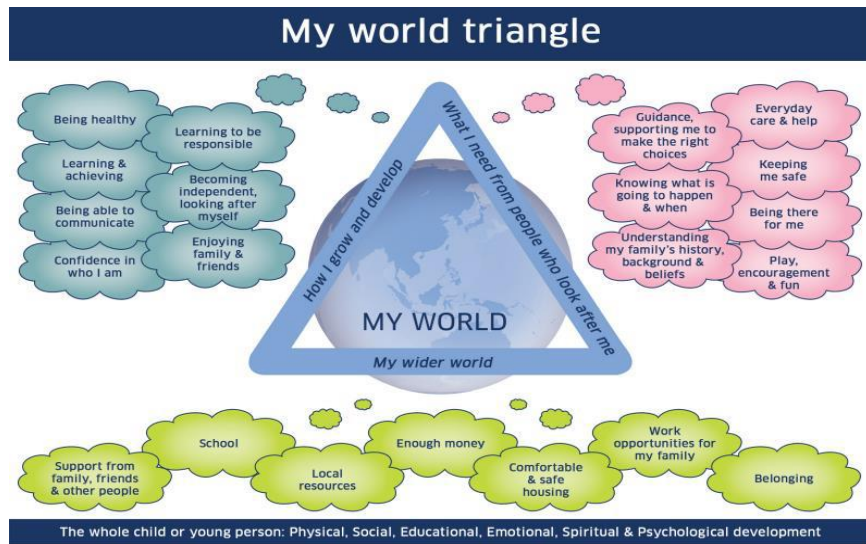


## **CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY SERVICE (CWDS)**

### **Framework of Support**

In Aberdeen City services for disabled children and young people are being developed within the context of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989, Self-Directed Support (Scotland) Act 2011, Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2013 and the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016, and are underpinned by the framework of Getting it Right for Every Child; My World Triangle and the SHANARRI indicators: Safe, Healthy, Active, Nurtured, Achieving, Responsible, Respected and Included.

## Appendix C



The purpose of this document is to offer support and clarity, to parents and professionals, about how decisions are made and to ensure that services are targeted at those with the highest levels of need consistently and fairly. This framework should not be applied rigidly but flexibly exercising professional judgement.

## Appendix C

For most children in Aberdeen who require services, these can be accessed through universal provision within their local community. The same should be true of any child with a disability. Only where it has been identified, that the impact of the child's disability on their life and/or that of their family is too great to be addressed by universal provision, should a referral to the Children with Disabilities Service be considered. This framework exists to consider if a child or young person is eligible for a referral into the Children with Disabilities Service.

The Children with Disabilities Service works with children aged from 0 to 18.

The Children with Disabilities Service will offer an assessment (under Sect. 23 Children (Scotland) Act 1995) where the child has a condition diagnosed by a Doctor or Consultant which is substantial, long lasting or permanent, physical and/or an intellectual disability or a life limiting, life threatening condition.

These may include:

- Severe learning disabilities;
- Severe physical disabilities;
- Severe developmental delay in motor and or cognitive functioning;
- Profound multiple disabilities;
- Complex and severe health problems that arise from the disability, that are life threatening, degenerative illness or organic disorder resulting in severe disability;
- A diagnosis of Autism with an associated learning disability and where the condition severely affects day to day functioning;
- Children and Young people with a sole diagnosis of ADHD are not eligible for referral.

When a child or young person is allocated to the Children with Disabilities Service, the Team will screen the referral against the framework of support to assess suitability of referral. Following this a Section 23 assessment (Children (Scotland) 1995) will be undertaken to consider the needs of the child or young person with disability and how these are met within/by their family. Where deemed appropriate a referral is also considered to the commissioned service ( if not already done) for an assessment of the Adult Carers Need. This assessment will consider the whole family's needs and what supports are around them. Provision of resources including the level and type will be determined by these assessments. It is not the level of the child's disability that determines the service but the assessed impact the disability has on their quality of life and that of their family.

The chart below illustrates categories of identified levels of need. The Children with Disabilities Service will support a child/young person, whose needs are deemed to be significant. However there will be occasions when children who meet the moderate level will also be considered for a service in order to prevent crisis.

•SIGNIFICANT -

- Children with complex health needs / disabilities, where parents / carers are unable to provide care.
- Children with disabilities for whom there are welfare or child protection concerns.
- Families who require intensive multi agency support in caring for children with disabilities and / or health needs, or life limiting conditions. e

MODERATE -

Children, likely to have a number of additional needs and, without the support of additional services, needs are likely to become significant.

These children are likely to require a Lead Professional and co-ordinated support services of more than one agency.

LOW -

Children whose needs can be met by universal services and targeted universal services such as specialist education provision and third sector organisations who offer support to children/young people with additional support needs.

## Appendix C

### SIGNIFICANT –

- No one is available or able to meet the child or young person's basic needs.
- Families who require intensive multi agency support in caring for children with disabilities and/or health needs, or life limiting conditions.
- Children/young people with disabilities who require specialist input because of mental health needs additional to their diagnosis, e.g. CAMHS.
- Children with disabilities who have recently been subject to a child protection plan, and who remain in need of ongoing specialist services.
- Families who require intensive multi agency support in caring for children with disabilities and/or health needs, or life limiting conditions.

### MODERATE –

- Children, including children with disabilities are likely to have a number of additional needs and, without the support of additional services will not meet their potential and GIRFEC, Child's Planning meeting should be held by lead professional.
- Children/young people with disabilities who require specialist input because of mental health needs, e.g. CAMHS.
  - It is apparent that the families own resources and/ or Universal and Targeted services are unable to provide the required level of support.
- A referral for Outreach support, Aberlour, AN-D & Fit Like Hubs requires or could be considered.

### LOW –

- All children, including children with disabilities, at this level may have one or two low level needs that can be met by one agency or referral to another other agency.
- Children, including children with disabilities are likely to have a number of additional needs and, without the support of additional services will not meet their potential and a Child's Planning meeting should be held by the named professional.
- Needs can be met by universal services and targeted universal services such as specialist education and third sector organisations who offer support to children and young people with additional support needs.

This framework of support will be closely monitored and reviewed yearly, in order to ensure that the desired outcomes are being achieved for all children and young people with a disability who require additional services.