



## **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)**

The [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child \(Incorporation\) \(Scotland\) Act 2024](#) (UNCRC) came into force in July 2024 and embeds the recognition and protection of children's rights within Scots law.

Public bodies are legally required to take proactive steps to ensure the protection of children's rights in their decision making and service delivery.

The Act contains four general principles:

- Non-discrimination (Article 2)
- Best interest of the child (Article 3)
- Right to life survival and development (Article 6)
- Right to be heard (Article 12)

At NHSGGC, we are already delivering programmes of work that help us to embed a children's human rights approach within our everyday practice.

Mandy Meechan, Chief Nurse at the Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow, said:

“Children are at the heart of everything we do at the hospital and that extends further than the medical treatment they are provided. Our ‘What Matters to You’ program also asks our children and families to tell us what would make them the most comfortable while receiving their care.”

On the launch day of the UNCRC, we proudly hosted Children's Health Scotland in our Royal Hospital for Children as part of Scottish Children's Health Week activities. We are developing a Board wide implementation plan to continue to embed this approach.