

# Cherishing Our Families Strategy 2023-2026 Easy Read



# What is the strategy about?



The 'Cherishing Our Families' strategy is about protecting children and young people from neglect.



Neglect happens when a child's basic needs are not met. For example, not having food, clothing or a house to live in.



We have written this strategy in because we are worried about children and young people being neglected.



It explains what different services in East Ayrshire will do to help children and young people.



It also explains what support is available for parents and carers.

# Guiding Principles



We have identified a set of rules that will help guide this strategy. These are called Guiding Principles:



## **Voice of the child:**

We will listen to children that have experienced neglect



## **Underpinned by Children's Rights:**

We will make sure that we meet children's right when making decisions.



## **Focus on families:**

We will support everyone in the family.



### **Empowerment of parents and carers:**

We will involve parents and carers in discussions and making decisions.



### **Right support at the right time:**

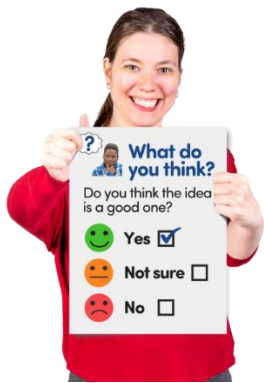
When there is a problem we will support children and their families as early as possible.



### **Strengths-based:**

We will work with children and their families to build on the things they are good at.

## What we will do



Families told us what they felt was important to tackle neglect.



Based on what people told us, we identified 4 ways to tackle neglect in East Ayrshire. These are called **Priorities**:



### **Priority 1 – Children’s voices are heard:**

Practitioners will listen to children that have experienced neglect.



### **Priority 2 – Right support at the right time:**

Families will be able to get the support they need at the right time.



### **Priority 3 – Improved understanding and collaboration:**

Everyone will have the same understanding of neglect. Service provide the same care to children and their families.



### **Priority 4 – Addressing poverty:**

Service will work together to help families in poverty.



This strategy has an action plan that different services are responsible for following between 2023 and 2026.



The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership is responsible for making sure the actions are completed.