

the promise  
**Learning  
Collaboratives**

## Promise Learning Collaborative -

### Event description:

Promise Learning Collaboratives are in person opportunities for participants to come together and share their experiences and learning in addressing challenges around the five foundations Plan 24-30. These free events are open to all.

As a collaborative we asked that when participants registered they:

- Tell us what challenges they faced around
- Shared their work and learning

This event focussed on the foundation of Scaffolding

The format allowed equal time for inputs, presentations and networking amongst participants.

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2025

No of Attendees: 62

Audience Profile: Similar to previous events, the day attracted a broad range of members of the workforce from across the system.

Geographically participants predominately came from across Ayrshire.

Local Authorities, Third sector and business was represented including NHS promise leads, HSCP'S, PT Guidance, workforce development leads, service managers, residential staff, Voluntary sector.

### Scene Setting

The aim of the day was to create a 'brave' space, where participants could explore challenges around the foundation of Scaffolding, openly and freely. Participants were asked to listen, learn and share, as the value of the event was sharing the collective experience, skills and knowledge in the room.

To help start the day and ensure we remain focused on the impacts for children, young people and families we started by viewing a short animation - Jack's Story:

[https://youtu.be/N5Vq2TyFhEc?si=tB\\_JW4rp0TSZofun](https://youtu.be/N5Vq2TyFhEc?si=tB_JW4rp0TSZofun)



## sharing learning

Copies of the Power point Presentations can be found on the Promise Scotland website

Organisation	North Ayrshire Council – Helping Young People Understand the Promise - <a href="https://bit.ly/PLC-Presentation-NAC">https://bit.ly/PLC-Presentation-NAC</a>
Contact(s)	Jen Law - <a href="mailto:jenniferlaw@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">jenniferlaw@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a> Jenny Lewis - <a href="mailto:jennylewis@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">jennylewis@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
Summary of Presentation	<p>How capturing the voice of young people through the engagement and participation networks has enabled them to develop relevant, meaningful resources and activities. These include the ce4u app which helps young people have easy access and stay connected to relevant information for them.</p> <p>We are responding to feedback from our young people who told us, during our Annual Promise Conference in December 2024, that some are still unsure what The Promise is and what it means for them. We are working collaboratively with both the workforce &amp; young people to create a young-person friendly resource that communicates what The Promise is and what it is doing for children &amp; young people at various ages &amp; stages.</p>
Key learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can't do everything alone – partnership is key to success and ensuring the best outcomes and resources for young people</li> <li>• You need to continually revise and update following feedback from young people</li> <li>• You can't make assumptions about what is important to young people</li> </ul>

Organisation	NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Contact	Claire McMorland - <a href="mailto:claire.mcmorland@aapct.scot.nhs.uk">claire.mcmorland@aapct.scot.nhs.uk</a>
Summary of Presentation	<p>The Partnership Design, Implementation and Evaluation of The Health Safety Check across Ayrshire and Arran</p> <p>When a child moves home in an emergency, for example from their family home to foster parents or between foster parents, there has been no reliable mechanism available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, year round to inform emergency carers of the ICYP's immediate health needs. This has in the past resulted in the ICYP failing to receive the required medication or missing important healthcare appointments. This is especially pertinent to relatively common conditions, which can be potentially life threatening if untreated, such as diabetes, severe allergies and asthma.</p> <p>The Promise Scotland outline the requirement for corporate parents to "scaffold" for our care experienced children and young people. With the right support CECYP can attain excellent health that continues throughout their</p>

	<p>lives. Inequalities are not an inevitability. The Health Safety Check is a practical example of a “cog” in the wider care system which could contribute to positive health outcomes and uphold rights for infants, children and young people (ICYP) when they need support most.</p> <p>Some members of the NHS AA Corporate parenting Task Force share our experience of collaborating with partners across services to implement this service using QI methodology and the resulting impact this has had on our ICYP, their carers and staff within health and social care locally.</p>
Key learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for the service not to be reliant on individuals – building in an out of hours process to ensure information is available when a lot of emergency moves were taking place.</li> <li>• The requirement for true partnership working and understanding across sectors</li> </ul>

Organisati on	<p>The Why Not Trust – The Village <a href="https://www.canva.com/design/DAGucaNccMQ/cripTR8vMG9JNCYmLDDzkA/view?utm_content=DAGucaNccMQ&amp;utm_campaign=designshare&amp;utm_medium=link2&amp;utm_source=uniquelinks&amp;utlId=h3e9416ad8e">https://www.canva.com/design/DAGucaNccMQ/cripTR8vMG9JNCYmLDDzkA/view?utm_content=DAGucaNccMQ&amp;utm_campaign=designshare&amp;utm_medium=link2&amp;utm_source=uniquelinks&amp;utlId=h3e9416ad8e</a></p>
Contact(s)	<p>Sarah Jane McKillop - sj.mckillop@whynottrust.org</p>
Summary of Presentati on	<p>The Village community provides support to care experienced parents, and the importance of putting people before systems, to ensure the system is able to support people. The Village breaks down barriers for care experienced parents to engage in support that can help parents to thrive ... often professionals want us to share information in reg to our parents however, this would not create the safe and confidential space the parents who have often experienced trauma, judgement and discrimination need to engage....we often experience a lot of over sharing of information from professionals which we do not need to know . Each parent we interact with has their own story and this should be treated with care, dignity and respect. We never ask our parents to share their story with us, its their choice who gets the privilege to hear their story. We meet the parents where they feel they are at, and let them decide the support they need from us... this can feel empowering for parents and supports engagement. We monitor our impact through anonymous evaluation which shows the success of our work. We acknowledge not everyone is able to work in this way, and that's okay... but lets put people first.</p> <p>We regularly hear of our parents coming up against discrimination and judgement due to their recorded history, and not due to their current capacity. We do believe this is getting better with the promise but we need to keep pushing for everyone to have a shared understanding and ensure their approaches work for the individuals they support.</p>
Key learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data sharing isn't essential to delivery. Funding can be secured without adhering to strict data collection methodologies</li> <li>• Importance of sticking to your values, even if this means turning down funding as it ensures the integrity of the process.</li> </ul>

Organisation	South Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership
Contact	Christina Moriarty - christina.moriarty@south-ayrshire.gov.uk
Summary of Presentation	Small Steps to Wellbeing service based within secondary education across the authority providing early intervention to young people to reduce likelihood of statutory social work/SCRA input in their lives. Initially based around covid recovery and supporting young people back into education, the service has evolved and now includes young people in Primary 7 upwards recognising the need for scaffolding during transitions to support better outcomes in our young people
Key learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young people need someone who will listen</li> <li>• Being in school increases accessibility</li> <li>• Early intervention and relational practice is key</li> </ul>

Organisation	SCRA
Contact	Sarah Foran - sarah.foran@scra.gov.uk
Summary of Presentation	We know families need more support to understand children's hearings and to reduce their anxiety when attending a Hearing. We are now contacting families to let them know they need to come to a Hearing soon, find out when suits them to attend, find out if they need any support traveling to the Hearing Centre, and if they need any support to participate with the Hearing. We offer and support pre-Hearing visits for anyone who would benefit from seeing the Hearing room before the Hearing, and also offer follow up calls to ensure people have received all their paperwork and proactively offer to answer any questions and remind them of their Hearing to promote and support physical or virtual attendance (including financial support). We have learned so much about the support people need and the barriers they face when engaging with our service. It's not perfect as we're still bound by unhelpful elements of the legislation and the language around Hearings remains a barrier, but we're seeing a huge improvement in family and staff satisfaction and feel this is a move towards the future of our service.
Key learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The small details matter and can make a huge difference</li> <li>• Families need reassurance to engage</li> </ul>



### Feedback:

There was rich discussion throughout the day.

Participants really appreciated the opportunity to explore challenges and solutions.

Following on from the presentations the discussions explored –

- The importance of partnership working and working across sectors (and pan Ayrshire). Making time to do this meaningfully.
- The challenges faced by those who are digitally excluded as much information is accessible online.
- The importance of supervision as a holistic staff wellbeing tool rather than just performance management.
- The importance of relational practice and trauma informed approaches.

Participant Feedback on the event (Full event feedback can be found in the evaluation pdf):

Sum the day up in one word...

*"Informative" "Encouraging" "Collaborative"*

*"Great variety of presentations and time to network with time dedicated to think about the Promise"*

*"...presentations showed rather than showcased their work - this is important"*



world cafe  
discussions

## World Cafe Discussion

The world café session took the challenges that participants had identified in incorporating Scaffolding in their work, during the registration process. We then asked those attending to share ideas and experiences that they had used in practice to help mitigate the challenges.

The challenges and feedback can be found on the attached PDF documents.

### Next Steps:

This session will be followed by online sessions.

Places on these sessions can be booked via Eventbrite: [The Promise Scotland Events - 9 Upcoming Activities and Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

Our next In person Promise Learning Collaborative will be in Edinburgh on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and focus on Scaffolding.