



University  
of Glasgow | Institute of Health  
& Wellbeing

# Experiences from Scotland

Helen Minnis

[Helen.minnis@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Helen.minnis@glasgow.ac.uk)





# What is unique in the Scottish system?

## GIRFEC

National approach to improving the wellbeing of children and young people in Scotland

## Named Person

One point of contact that children and families can go to for advice or support if they need it



# What is unique in the Scottish system?

## **Children's Hearing System**

- Based on the “welfare principle”
- Originally designed for children who had committed crimes
- Now the main forum for decisions on children in care
- Grave concerns about its adequacy as regards permanency decisions



# Maltreated Scottish children in 2017?

- Neglectful and/or abusive early experiences
- Turbulent journeys through the care system
- Foster carers are “temporary”



**Essentially no mental health services for children under 5 – especially if maltreated**



## **Universal**

- Health visiting, GP, community paed
- “Red book” health record

## **Looked after and accommodated children**

- Child protection register and “accommodation”
- Often have missed general surveillance
- ?Less likely to get CAMHS – “oh its no wonder...”



**What is the best way to improve the mental health and placement stability of pre-school children who have come into foster care because of abuse and/or neglect?**





# Our question

Is an **infant mental health model** or a **social work model** the best way to achieve this?



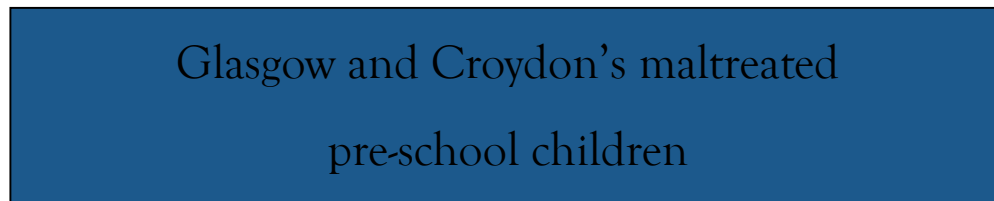


# Why is randomisation important?

No. siblings  
Age of child  
Parental age  
Drug use  
Alcohol



No. siblings  
Age of child  
Parental age  
Drug use  
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# Your thoughts please...

