

Thank you for visiting the Sid and SHANARRI website



All about our Sid and SHANARRI Project

Background

Following requests from practitioners for support around the wellbeing indicators, the development team within North Lanarkshire Council, Interventions and Inclusion section, identified the need for the development of a tool to facilitate discussion between practitioners, parents, carers and children.

In addition to this, practitioners also requested support with incorporating the child's voice into their Personal Learning Plan and also demonstrating their progress.

The development team also noted that there are huge variations in how Practitioners communicate with children, their parents and carers to discuss information contained in the child's 'Personal Learning Plan' and also in how this information is recorded.

A short term working group, made up of early learning managers, practitioners and childminders, was established to take forward project development:

The Challenge

The working group identified 2 key aims :

- To create a high quality interactive and open ended resource, that could be used by children aged 2-5 years, their families, carers AND practitioners.
- To provide all users with more knowledge and understanding of GIRFEC and the wellbeing indicators within it, therefore embedding it into everyday practice thus improving the outcomes for each individual child.

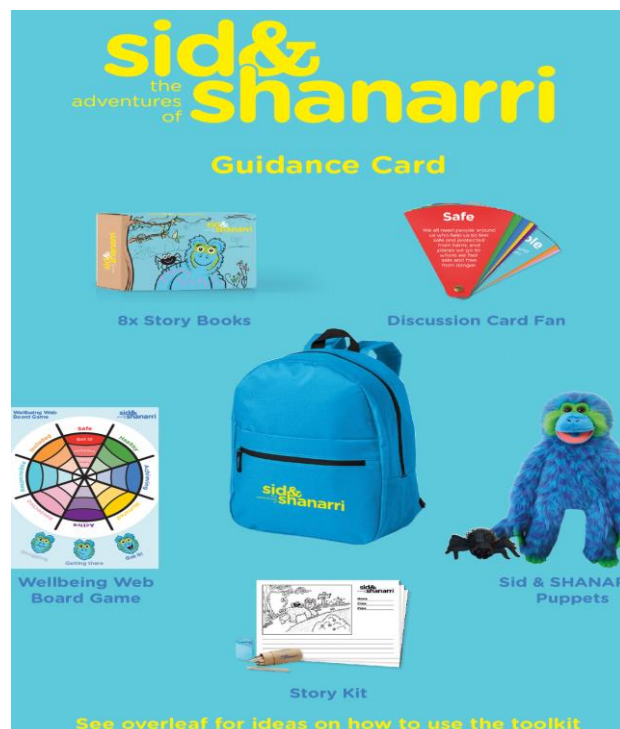
The working group concluded that the best way forward was the development of a 'Home-Link' bag that included interactive tools based on the wellbeing indicators.

A bid to the NLC Early Years Collaborative change fund was successful and the group developed and produced the home-link kit.

The Home-Link Kit

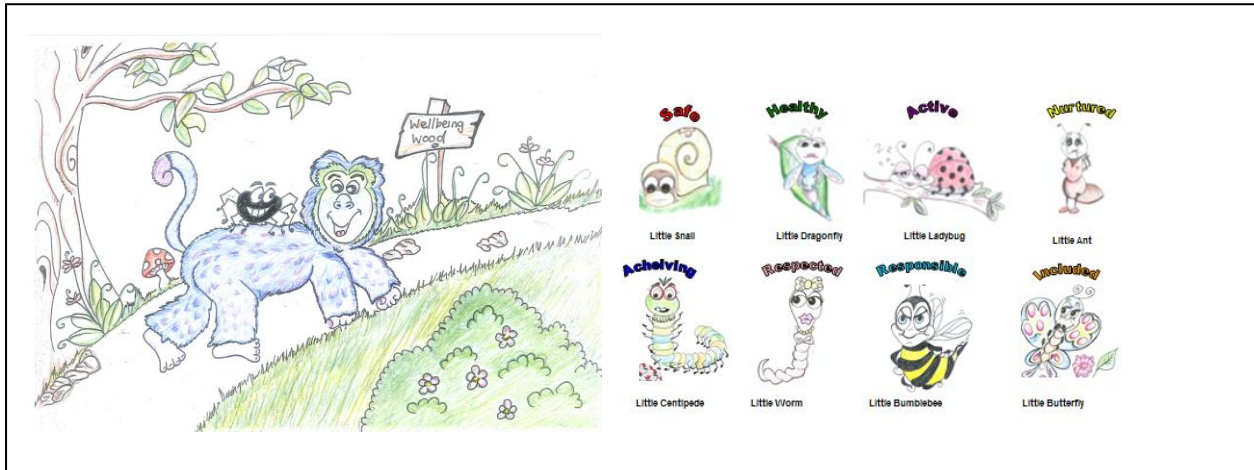
The home-link kit consists of a backpack containing 8 short story books; 2 puppets; a discussion fan; a board game; a story creating kit and a guidance card.

It has been designed to facilitate discussion around wellbeing between: practitioners and children; practitioners and parents/carers; parents/carers and children; teachers and children; teachers and parents/carers.



The Sid and SHANARRI Story Books

The 8 story books are based around 2 friendly characters, Sid the Monkey and SHANARRI the spider who live in the Wellbeing Wood. As they roam the wood, they come across little characters that have concerns around aspects of their wellbeing.



All 8 stories were written by the working group and each story consists of a problem around one of the indicators and a suggested solution. The 3 read approach was used in the development of the stories, which contain lots of repetition and rhyming to encourage early literacy skills.

In developing the stories, the working group introduced diverse family units taking in a variety of situations. They offer space for discussion about children's own thoughts and experiences as well as offering subtle messages about the importance of wellbeing.

The illustrations are full of expression and provide a visual stimulus to support what is being heard. A member of the working group created the original drawings of all the characters.

The Home-link Kit Resources

Each kit contains additional resources which are used to support practitioners to introduce children, parents and carers to the wellbeing indicators.



Two puppets: Sid the monkey and Shanarri the spider. The puppets can be used alongside the books to help increase interest and engagement and bring the stories to life.



Wellbeing Board Game: Can be used along with the puppets to facilitate discussion around the child's thoughts on their own wellbeing for the indicator being discussed.



Discussion Fan: These cards give a brief description of what each indicator means and also provide suggested questions to help get the discussion started.



Story Creating Kit: The bag contains a set of colouring pencils and pages can be downloaded from the website. These can be used to encourage the child to make up their own stories about wellbeing. This helps the practitioner to measure the child's views and understanding of the wellbeing indicator being discussed.



Guidance Card: Provides suggestions for using the kit and also links to the dedicated website and Scottish Government GIRFEC web pages.

The Website (www.sidandshanarri.co.uk)

The website contains audio versions of the 8 stories and a range of downloadable resources that can be used alongside the home-link kit. It also holds a range of useful resources from the Scottish Government GIRFEC website and links to other relevant websites.

The SHANARRI Wellbeing Tool

The wellbeing measurement tool was developed to provide practitioners with an evaluation and planning tool that provides visual evidence of improvement by mapping progress. It can be used to identify areas for improvement to inform children's Personal Learning Plans. The aim being to get the child as close to a perfect octagon score of 10 as possible over a period of time. This has subsequently been amended, following feedback from the pilots, to 3 areas of 'starting to', 'getting there' and 'got it'.

The Wellbeing Web



Each book has a wellbeing web at the end of the story. This allows the child to consider their own wellbeing around the indicator being discussed and to plot where they see themselves at that moment in time.

Progress Key :

<u>Cycle</u>	<u>Date commenced</u>	<u>Colour of Pen</u>	<u>Next Step</u>
1	30.04.18	Red	Focus on Health & Activity – introduce new fruits
2	30.06.18	Blue	Focus on healthy eating – big chef little chef
3	30.08.18	Green	Focus on healthy body / healthy heart
4	_____	_____	_____
5	_____	_____	_____
6	_____	_____	_____

Next Steps

The home-link kits were distributed to local authority establishments, private and independent partner nurseries and some registered childminders in October 2016. The use of the kits will be rigorously tested by establishments until mid-December, we will then evaluate the impact and use any feedback received to further develop the resource.

We hope you enjoy using the Sid and SHANARRI resource!

