

Compass Report (Interim)

Peoples' experiences of transitions in Scotland
1 June to 31 December 2023

PRINCIPLES
into
PRACTICE

Section 1

Introduction

1 Introduction

Welcome to the first Compass Report, presenting initial data gathered by Compass over the six month period since its launch.

Compass is a free online tool to help young people with additional support needs (14 to 25), their parents and carers, and the professionals who support them to navigate the transition to young adult life in Scotland.

It was launched in June 2023.

There are three versions of Compass: one for young people with additional support needs, one for their parents and carers and one for professionals and practitioners. They have been carefully designed in partnership with their intended audiences to provide the information most useful to them.

Each version provides information tailored to the individual user based on their responses to questions asked within the tool. It also gathers feedback about their experiences and the things most important to them.

With a data sharing agreement in place, ARC Scotland can collate this information into individualised reports for local authorities to better inform the decisions they make. To give a picture across Scotland, we will also publish two national reports each year: an Interim Report each January and Full Report each July. These will provide important information for everyone who is interested in improving the lives of young people with additional support needs and their families.

All our reports are anonymised and will never identify an individual. We always keep data safe and do not use it for any other purpose.

This first Interim Report provides only a small snapshot of the data Compass will eventually provide.

In this report we use the term 'additional support needs' to include those with learning disabilities, autism, physical disabilities, sensory impairments, life limiting health conditions, mental health difficulties, young carers and those who have care experience.

Section 2

What Compass Does

2 What Compass Does

Compass provides essential information to help everyone better understand the transitions process, what they need to do and who can help, including:

▲ Planning

Helps people to work out what's most important and be more confident about their choices.

▲ Information

Links to information about the topics that matter most to the young person and their family.

▲ Control

Helps people understand the transitions process and keep things on track.

▲ Feedback

Provides an anonymous way to gather information about what is working and what could be better.

Compass is part of Principles into Practice. This is a new framework that provides practical guidance to local authorities and their partners on how to improve the experiences of young people aged 14-25 who need additional support to make the transition to young adult life and their parents and carers. It is based on the Principles of Good Transitions. See www.pn2p.scot

ARC Scotland are continuing to work alongside partners in Scottish local authority areas to support the implementation of Principles into Practice. This work is supported by the Scottish Government Children, Young People, Families and Adult Learning Third Sector Fund.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more.

Compass is **free to use and available now** to all young people with additional support needs, parents and carers and the professionals who support them in Scotland. If you have not already done so, please sign up now!

www.compasslaunch.scot

Section 3

Demographic Information

3 Demographic Information

On 31 December 2023 Compass user numbers were:

Parent/Carers:	336
Young People:	191
Professionals:	404
Total:	931

People from all 32 Scottish local authorities had signed up to Compass.

Section 4

The Data

4 The Data

Launched in June 2023, Compass is still relatively new. The usefulness of the information it generates depends on the number of people using it and their level of interaction with it.

A full Compass Report 2023/24 will be published in July 2024 with our analysis of findings.

This will include responses to questions such as:

To what extent young people with additional support needs feel they:

- Have a say in what happens in their lives.
- Know their options for their future.
- Have support to do the things most important to them.

To what extent parents and carers of young people with additional support needs agree that:

- Their young person has an agreed written plan for transition.
- There is a clear transitions pathway for their young person.
- Someone other than them is taking responsibility for planning for their young person.

To what extent practitioners agree that:

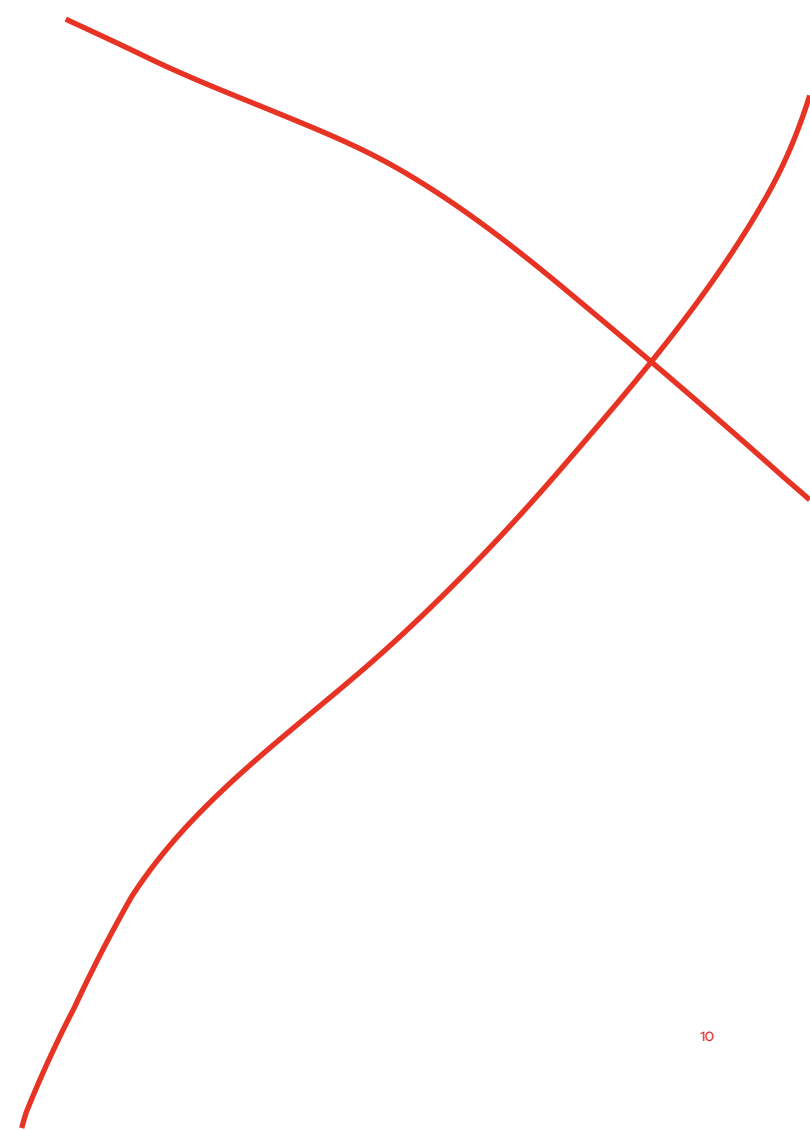
- They clearly understand their role and responsibilities during transitions, and those of others involved.

4 The Data

This first Interim Report is limited to responses to some questions from the Parent and Carer tool for which we had the highest number of responses. It provides an early indication of the experiences of parents and carers of young people with additional support needs in Scotland.

Compass can provide feedback from users from over 300 data points. This table therefore represents only a small sample of the data it gathers. These reports will become more detailed and comprehensive as user numbers grow.

Users that selected 'No/Not Sure' to a question were provided with information about the topic. Not all users will unlock all transitions questions as some are only unlocked following responses to earlier questions.



4 The Data

Questions	Yes	No/Not Sure	Responses
Do you know what Guardianship is?	66%	34%	121
Do you know what employment and/or employment support opportunities there are for your young person?	10%	90%	117
Do you know about Self-directed Support and assessment of needs?	48%	52%	85
Do you know what housing options there are for your young person?	11%	89%	114
Do you know what person centred planning is?	46%	54%	113
Do you know what life skills your young person needs to develop?	50%	50%	54
Do you know about the Independent Living Fund Scotland Transition Fund?	43%	57%	96
Do you know your rights as a parent or carer?	23%	77%	94
Do you know how to make a complaint if things aren't working?	32%	68%	66
Do you know what learning opportunities are available after your young person reaches school leaving age?	30%	70%	61
Do you know what Skills Development Scotland can offer and what their role during transitions planning is?	15%	85%	59
Have you had a carer's assessment?	26%	74%	68
Do you know how to prepare for a transition meeting?	34%	66%	56
Have you or your young person had discussions around consent to share their information with other people?	34%	66%	41

Section 5

Get Involved

5 Get Involved

Sign up to Compass to access information to support you through transitions and have your views included in our next report.

To sign up to the right version for you, go to:
www.compasslaunch.scot

Help us spread the word by following us and sharing on social media

Instagram | @scottishtransitionsforum

X | @Scotranfor

Facebook | @Scotranfor

Join the Scottish Transitions Forum to keep up to date and work alongside our 1000+ members to improve transitions for young people and families across Scotland:

www.scottishtransitions.org.uk/join-us/

Look out for the first full Compass Report this July.

Contact Us

ARC Scotland

www.arcscotland.org.uk | @ARCScot

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