

Keys to the Future

Shelter Scotland's Education Support
Service

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Education Liaison Workers

Shelter

The Keys to the Future Scotland project was developed in response to Shelter's national children's service initiative.

- Currently three Education Liaison workers in Dumfries, Glasgow and South Lanarkshire.
- Funded by the Big Lottery Fund and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Our role includes:

- Homework groups and/or one to one practical educational support provided at school, at home or in the local community.
- We encourage children and young people to develop a positive attitude towards learning and to build their self esteem.
- We help parents to engage with the schools, as well as giving them guidance on how best to support their children's learning.
- We work at a strategic level to ensure the educational support needs of children affected by homelessness are addressed, and that response measures and services improve.

Homelessness is listed as a possible indicator of additional support needs, provision for which is made in the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004.

We work within this Act to encourage schools to recognise the additional support needs that their homeless pupils may have.

Between 1st April and 31st December 2008 we have supported 106 homeless children with educational issues. To do this we often liaise with teachers, social workers, school nurses and educational psychologists.

51 of these children have received either one to one or group homework support.

Education volunteers have been used to help provide this service.

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