



Scotland's Charter for a Tobacco-free Generation is an initiative to help deliver a Tobacco-free Generation by 2034.

It links closely with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Like the UNCRC the Charter seeks to encourage adults to involve children, be responsible for them, and use their power to help keep them safe, healthy and protected from harm.

Article 2: the right to protection against discrimination.



The Charter is clear that all children should be entitled to these opportunities and protections.

Article 24: the right to the highest attainable standard of health and information.



Exposure to second-hand smoke in childhood is associated with a range of illnesses including middle ear diseases, lower respiratory tract infections, wheeze and asthma.

Article 33 children have the right to be protected from all harmful drugs.



Article 19: the right to be protected from harm.

Young children are more vulnerable to the harmful effects of second-hand smoke because they breathe faster, their lungs are still developing and they can't move away from smoky environments.

Article 31: the right to rest, leisure and play.



Environments like playgrounds, schools and homes that are smoke-free encourage a tobacco-free culture, making it less likely that children will become smokers when they grow up.

Principle 1
Every baby should be born free from the harmful effects of tobacco

Principle 2
Children have a particular need for a smoke-free environment

Principle 3
All children should play, learn and socialise in places that are free from tobacco

Principle 4
Every child has the right to effective education that equips them to make informed positive choices on tobacco and health

Principle 5
All young people should be protected from commercial interests which profit from recruiting new smokers

Principle 6
Any young person who smokes should be offered accessible support to them to become tobacco-free



Article 28 & 29: the right to education which develops children's personality, respect for other's rights and the environment.

Providing young people with knowledge of the harmful effects of tobacco will help them to make healthy choices regarding tobacco use.



Article 36 children and young people should not be exploited for any reason.

The tobacco industry uses its influence to deliberately block efforts to regulate or restrict the supply and promotion of tobacco.



Article 17 children and young people should be protected from media that could be harmful to them.

The portrayal of smoking in the media has a specific impact on young people's attitude towards tobacco and likelihood of initiation to smoking.



Article 39 young people have the right to recover from difficult things that happen to them, and that they can expect to receive the help that allows them to do so.

Support in their own communities can make it more likely that a young person will stop smoking.