Are we there yet?

Scotland on a journey:
national ambition and local reality

Play Scotland Strategy 2027 - 2032

Vision

A Scotland where **every child's right to play** is valued, protected and at the heart of their everyday life.

Mission

Over the next five years, Play Scotland will turn the national ambition for every child's right to play into local reality by **leading change, empowering people, and shaping environments.**

Principles

Connection: Connecting global inspiration with Scotland's context.

Community: Bringing people and places across generations.

Inclusion: Championing every child, every day, everywhere.

Listening: Ensuring children's voices shape their world.

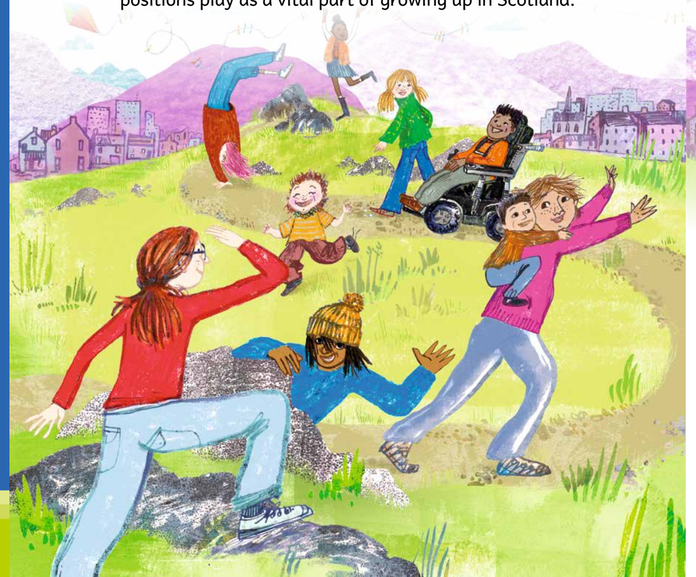
Sustainability: Building a better world for future generations.

Lead

Policy, Evidence and Collective Influence

We will influence the policies, systems and public conversations to embed **every child's right to play** across legislation, planning, education, health and community development.

Together with the wider play sector, we will amplify the voices, expertise and achievements of play organisations, elevate children's voices, and build a stronger collective voice that positions play as a vital part of growing up in Scotland.



Empower

Playwork, Pedagogy and Practice

We will strengthen the confidence, skills, and leadership of everyone responsible for children — across play, education, health and community settings — to **embed play in everyday practice.**

Core strands of work
(how we will achieve our mission)

Shape

Places, Spaces and Communities for Play

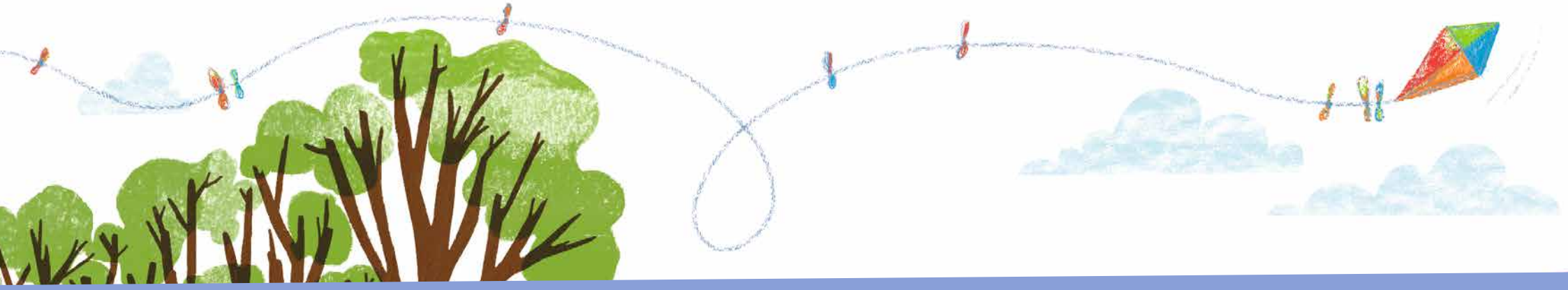
We will support the creation, protection and improvement of places for play in all spaces and communities – from streets and parks to museums and neighbourhoods – working with communities and other organisations to **make play visible, valued and accessible** locally.

“Scotland has a real opportunity to lead the way in making every child’s right to play a reality. With a national Play Vision Statement and Action Plan, a strong legislative framework and almost 30 years of Play Scotland’s work championing play, we have a powerful foundation to build on. I have seen the passion and commitment that exists across Scotland to give children the childhood they deserve, but we know there is more to do.

Our challenge now is to turn national ambition into local reality, working alongside government, local authorities, communities and the wider play sector to ensure every child has time, space and permission to play in their everyday lives. This is about more than creating opportunities; it is about recognising the fundamental importance of play to children’s happiness, health, development and wellbeing.

I believe now is our moment to make a lasting difference. Play is not a privilege; it is every child’s right. Together, we must make that right a reality for every child in Scotland.”

Mary Duncan
Chief Executive, Play Scotland



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