

Safeguarding

Cause for Concern Policy

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Quote Reference: 3.4

'Providers must be alert to any issues for concern in the child's life at home or elsewhere'

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure priority is given at all times to safeguarding children accessing services/activities through the Family Centre. The policy sets out the procedure to be followed by all staff, volunteers and students to ensure all concerns are addressed and actioned immediately.

We aim to:

- Identify, monitor and address any concern we have regarding a child's welfare or wellbeing at the earliest possible opportunity.
- Provide a clear procedure for recording, reporting and monitoring concerns.

What parents\carers should do

- Be aware that all Family Centre employees, volunteers and students have a duty of care to ensure the safeguarding of all children accessing Centre services/activities.
- Share with staff any concerns you have regarding your child's welfare or wellbeing and any possible reasons for the concerns.
- Understand that the Family Centre has a duty to record any concerns. Discuss them with you and provide your comments, signature and date. The only exception to this would be that if discussing concerns with you would result in putting your child at further risk of harm.
- Tell staff if you have concerns about any child and they will support you to report your concerns.

Policy Review: 28.2.2019
Policy Approved by: ECS, Senior Management Team
Policy Issue Date: 1.4.2019
Next Review Date: April 2020

Version 19/20

- Seek support through the Family Centre at times when you or your family need help.

What the Family Centre will do

- Ensure that any concerns raised are dealt with in accordance with this policy and procedure.
- In order to support the welfare of your child, conversations may be logged on your child's individual Welfare and Safeguarding Record.
- Share concerns with you regarding your child's wellbeing as appropriate to the circumstances and obtain your comments, signature and date on Cause for Concern Forms.
- Provide individual support to help families deal with difficult periods in their lives.

There is a separate procedure to follow for Family Support Workers who have concerns regarding a family that they are currently supporting.