

Caban Y Faenol CYF

Child Protection Policy - What's New?

Wales Safeguarding Procedures App

- The updates are due to Safeguarding Procedures Wales 2020.
- The Procedures are available to read on an app. You can put the app on a phone/ipad and it is important for every cylch to have the app. You can download the app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store for free. Type 'Wales Safeguarding Procedures' to search for it. The app is fully bilingual. It will update itself when it comes into contact with the web.
- There will be no paper copy of the procedures and do not try to print a copy - go to the app which is easy to use.
- The Procedures are also available online: www.diogelu.cymru and you can refer parents/carers to this website.
- Discard any files that are out of date e.g. white and red file All Wales Child Protection Guidelines 2008.
- The app works without a connection to the web, so once it is on a phone/ipad you can read and use it without the connection to the wi-fi. If you are unable to view the app for some reason and do not have a web connection to go to the zafasaf.cymru website, you can call your Support Officer / Mudiad Meithrin office for emergency assistance.

Terms / Language

- In the policy there is mention of 'practitioner' or 'practitioners' - which means staff, volunteers or anyone involved in the setting and the children in some way.
- What happens is not 'referring' a child to the social services but 'making a report'.
- Neglecting identity – e.g. if the child's choices of religion or gender are not respected.
- Emotional neglect – if no emotion/love is shown to the child.
- Financial abuse - explanation in the policy and procedures

Safeguarding Officer

- The name of the safeguarding officer and deputy needs to be put on the front of the policy so that everyone knows who they should turn to for advice and help. Normally the safeguarding officers are the Leader and the Responsible Individual/Registered Person on the committee. They should receive suitable training for this role. There is a description of the role in the policy.
- The telephone number of the child protection team of the local social services should also be noted.

Caban Y Faenol CYF

- It is necessary to indicate when the policy was reviewed and by whom at the head of the policy and when the next review of the policy will be.
- It is not the place of the committee to discuss cases or concerns about a child, only general matters e.g. improve procedure, change policy details to suit the setting.

General:

- Safeguarding children is EVERYONE's responsibility
- EVERYONE has a duty to report concerns
- There is now a great emphasis on listening to the child and listening to their wishes
- Safeguarding and reporting concerns is more important than keeping a secret or family beliefs or culture.
- Parents under the age of 18 are covered by the child protection policy
- Parents' consent should be sought before making a report. If it is not possible for the cylch to do this it should be stated why, e.g. putting the child at greater risk. If there is concern about this you can call social services for advice.
- If a member of the public tells practitioners in the cylch about a concern they have about a child, the cylch has a duty to make a report about the concern.

Recruiting

- A GDG check must be done on staff every 3 years
- When appointing new members to the committee / new trustees a more detailed GDG check must be carried out (enhanced DBS)

Recording:

- If there is a safeguarding file about the child, it should be kept separate from the child's personal file and locked - access to the safeguarding officers / limited number only
- A Safeguarding File has been prepared to accompany this policy which provides guidance on how to record, how to respond, keep a chronology of concerns etc. It will be available on the intranet.
- A Child Safety Concern Recording Form is attached to the policy and in the Safety File - an easy to use form to record everything clearly.

Additional things in the policy:

- What to do when a child discloses abuse
- How to go about freezing and locking information about children (in exceptional situations)

Caban Y Faenol CYF

- The policy raises awareness of harmful sexual behavior or sexual abuse between children (a separate new policy will be developed for this)
- Safeguarding principles are exactly the same online - a risk assessment template and guidance on how to prepare a safe virtual session is available to circles.