

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN - KEY GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

Working Together to Safeguard Children

This document sets out how individuals and organisations should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The guidance is addressed to all practitioners and front-line managers who have particular responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and to senior and operational managers in organisations that are responsible for commissioning or providing services to children, young people, parents and carers.

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/safeguarding/workingtogether/>
<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources-and-practice/IG00060/>

What to do if You're Worried a Child is Being Abused

This document provides best practice guidance for those who work with children in order to safeguard their welfare. It also contains an appendix to help practitioners with the legal issues affecting the sharing of information. The document outlines the following:

- what you should do if you have concerns about a child's welfare
- what will happen once you have informed someone about those concerns
- what further contribution you may be asked or expected to make to the processes of assessment, planning, working with children, and reviewing that work

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources-and-practice/IG00182/>

Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education

This guidance is a consolidated version of earlier guidance material, and covers:

- duties for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in education
- recruitment and selection processes
- recruitment and vetting checks
- dealing with allegations of abuse against teachers and other staff

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources-and-practice/IG00175/>

Framework for the assessment of children and their families

Guidance on how assessments are undertaken in order to decide:

- whether a child is in need, including those at risk of significant harm
- what actions must be taken and which services would be appropriate

http://www.dh.gov.uk/dr_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/documents/digitalasset/dh_4014430.pdf

Guidance on the Duty to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children

Guidance on the duty under Section 11 Children Act 2004, which places a statutory duty on key people and bodies to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and requires all agencies to have:

- senior management commitment to safeguarding and promoting children's welfare
- a clear statement of the agency's responsibilities towards children
- a clear line of accountability for work on safeguarding children
- where appropriate, regard to the views of children and families
- training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children for all staff working with, or in contact with, children and families
- safe recruitment procedures in place
- effective inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- effective information sharing

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources-and-practice/IG00042/>

Statutory guidance on inter-agency co-operation to improve the wellbeing of children: children's trusts

Guidance on the duty to co-operate under Section 10 Children Act 2004, which provides the underpinning framework for children's trusts. Well-being is the term used in the act to define the five ECM outcomes: Be healthy - Stay safe - Enjoy and achieve - Make a positive contribution - Achieve economic well-being

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/1200903D4F3C1396021B70D7146FAFEA.pdf

The Victoria Climbié Inquiry

Report of an Inquiry by Lord Laming into the death of Victoria Climbié (2003)

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/6728E64BAB0ED84EABA7B374C36758DA.pdf

<http://www.victoria-climbié-inquiry.org.uk/finreport/summary-report.pdf>

Keeping children safe

The Government's response to The Victoria Climbié Inquiry Report and Joint Chief Inspectors' Report Safeguarding Children

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/684162953674A15196BB5221973959E3.pdf

The Bichard Inquiry Report

Public Inquiry Report on child protection procedures in Humberside Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary, following the deaths of Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman which particularly looked at the effectiveness of relevant intelligence-based record keeping, vetting practices since 1995 and information sharing with other agencies.

http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/pdf/bichard_report.pdf

<http://www.bichardinquiry.org.uk/>

Every Child Matters – Change for Children

Sets out the national framework for local change programmes to build services around the needs of children and young people so as to maximise opportunity and minimise risk.

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/F9E3F941DC8D4580539EE4C743E9371D.pdf

Working with voluntary and community organisations to deliver change for children and young people (2004)

Sets out how the government will work towards ensuring that voluntary and community organisations can be part of the vision set out in Every Child Matters (ECM) and the long-term process of transformation that will lead to its achievement.

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/68732D0963E1F4367758569074B6F79A.pdf

Engaging the Voluntary and Community Sectors in Children's Trusts (2005)

Advice to support local authorities, other public sector agencies and voluntary and community organisations in developing effective arrangements for involving the voluntary and community sectors in children's trusts.

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/9BC0394D20F3A2FA425FAFE5CC099E02.pdf

An Overview of Cross Government Guidance

An overview of the guidance published in support of the government's ECM programme.

http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/_files/B434EAE08179B3F6C1ABC1CB0BB6B1D2.pdf