

Contribute to the development and review of policies and procedures relating to the rights of children and young people

Overview

This standard is about complying with legal requirements and organisational policies and procedures relating to the rights of children and young people. It also covers the implementation and the responsibility of maintaining these policies within your playwork setting and with staff with whom you work and may have some responsibility for.

The main outcomes of this standard are:

1. contribute to the development and review of the organisational policies and procedures relating to the rights of children and young people
2. facilitate staff awareness of and implement organisational policies and procedures

This standard is for a playworker working directly with children and young people in a playwork setting whose main purpose is to provide children and young people with opportunities for freely chosen, self-directed play. This standard is for staff who have some responsibility for the playwork setting and others, making a significant contribution to supporting play.

This standard is underpinned by the Playwork Principles and playworkers must be familiar with these and, where possible, demonstrate them through their practice and reflection.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

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1. investigate children and young people's **rights**
2. evaluate existing **policies and procedures** to ensure the **rights** of children and young people in your playwork setting are being met
3. consult with children and young people on the ways the playwork setting can best meet their **rights**
4. develop group agreements with children and young people on ways of meeting their needs and **rights**
5. consult with **staff** and agree on **policies and procedures** that are based on meeting the needs and **rights** of
6. provide information and suggestions on these **policies and procedures** to **staff**

Facilitate staff awareness of and implement organisational policies and procedures

7. regularly check that **staff** are aware the **policies and procedures**
8. contribute to a culture of diversity and inclusion with **staff** and other relevant adults
9. observe, collect feedback and evaluate how well the **policies and procedures** are working within your playwork setting

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

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1. the Playwork Principles within the professional and ethical framework for playwork and how each of the principles can be applied within your own role
2. how to carry out research on children and young people's **rights** and identify the implications for your playwork setting
3. basic requirements of national and regional legislation upholding children's right to play
4. basic requirements of national legislation on the **rights** of children and young people
5. basic requirements of legislation covering Equal Opportunities and Disability Discrimination
6. local guidance, **policies and procedures** and how they apply to your playwork setting
7. the basic stages of child development and their implications for children and young people's needs and **rights** in a playwork context
8. the importance of the playwork setting having policies and procedures that reflect children and young people's **rights**
9. the importance of children and young people being consulted with and involved in decision making and how to consult effectively with them
10. the importance of diversity and inclusion to the playwork setting
11. how to support diversity and inclusion through your words, actions and behaviours in your playwork setting
12. why it is important to promote the playwork setting to children and young people who may experience barriers to participation
13. types of support that children and young people may need to access to make best use of the playwork setting
14. current theories and good practice relating to inclusion
15. how to promote and advocate for children and young people's **rights** in your playwork setting

Facilitate staff awareness of and implement organisational policies and procedures

16. how to support the implementation of organisational **policies and procedures** within your playwork setting

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- 17. ways of supporting staff understand the **policies and procedures** and why it is important to complete this regularly
- 18. how to ensure the **rights** of children and young people in your playwork setting are being met by **staff**
- 19. diversity and inclusion issues and when and how to provide **staff** with support
- 20. how to collect feedback and evaluate how **policies and procedures** are working within your playwork setting

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Scope/range related to performance criteria **Rights** (*minimum of 4 out of 6*)

1. for play and social activities
2. for care and safety
3. for emotional wellbeing
4. for inclusion
5. for acknowledgement of their identity
6. for information

Policies and procedures (*minimum of 4 out of 7*)

1. play and social activities
2. inclusion and anti-discriminatory practice
3. child protection and bullying
4. health and safety
5. responding to behaviour
6. assisting children and young people to make transitions
7. interagency working

Staff (*minimum of 3 out of 4*)

1. with whom you work
2. for whom you are responsible
3. paid and or unpaid
4. students and or trainees

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Scope/range related Rights

to knowledge and understanding

1. for play and social activities
2. for care and safety
3. for emotional wellbeing
4. for inclusion
5. for acknowledgement of their identity
6. for information

Policies and procedures

1. play and social activities
2. inclusion and anti-discriminatory practice
3. child protection and bullying
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Staff

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Values

The Playwork practitioners involved in writing this standard, in conjunction with SkillsActive, have agreed to adopt the following as the set of values prescribed for all of those working within the playwork sector:

Playwork Principles

These Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people. They are based on the recognition that children and young people's capacity for positive development will be enhanced if given access to the broadest range of environments and play opportunities.

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.

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8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and wellbeing of children.

The Playwork Principles are held in trust for the UK playwork profession by the Scrutiny Group that acted as an honest broker overseeing the consultations through which they were developed.

Glossary

Play space

A place formed by children and young people playing. It can be physical, affective, permanent, transient or cyber

Playwork setting

Somewhere children and young people have the opportunity to play that is staffed by playworkers

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