



Child Safeguarding Roles in Early Years Services



RELEVANT SERVICES UNDER THE CHILDREN FIRST ACT, 2015

Only services listed in Schedule 1 of the Children First Act 2015.

Schedule 1 as Relevant to Early Learning and Childcare Services:

Any work or activity which is carried out by a person, a necessary and regular part of which consists mainly of the person having access to, or contact with, children in (a) an establishment which provides early years services within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.

ALL EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE SERVICES ARE RELEVANT SERVICES AND THEREFORE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO HAVE A CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT



A PROVIDER OF A RELEVANT SERVICE

A Provider of a Relevant Service as per the Children First Act 2015, is someone who employs, contracts with or permits one, or more than one other person, to undertake any work or activity that constitutes a relevant service. Each service should be clear on who is the provider of the relevant service in their organisation.

This is usually the employer.



RELEVANT PERSON

As defined in the Children First Act 2015, 'means a person who is appointed by a provider of a relevant service to be the first point of contact in respect of the provider's Child Safeguarding Statement'.



DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON (DLP)

All organisations that are providing services to children and families should appoint a designated liaison person (DLP) and a deputy designated liaison person, in keeping with best practice in child safeguarding.

The role of the DLP is:

- To ensure that the organisation's reporting procedure is followed
 - To ensure that concerns are referred promptly to Tusla
 - To act as a resource and support to workers with a concern
 - To record all concerns and actions taken



INDIVIDUALS MAY HAVE MORE THAN ONE OF THESE ROLES AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERYBODY IS AWARE OF THEIR ROLE(S) IN SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN