



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

NATIONAL MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL SCHOOLS

WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

3. Child Protection

Procedures and Training

OUTCOME

The welfare of children is promoted, children are protected from abuse, and an appropriate response is made to any allegation or suspicion of abuse.

STANDARD 5

- 5.1 There are systems in place in the school which aim to prevent abuse of children and suspicions or allegations of abuse are properly responded to. These are known and understood by all staff (including junior, ancillary, volunteer and agency staff).**
- 5.2** A copy of the local Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) procedures is kept in the school. The managers of the school ensure that staff have read these, understand and are knowledgeable about them.
- 5.3** The school's child protection procedures are in line with the local policies and procedures agreed by the Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC) relevant to the geographical area where the school is situated. The school's child protection procedures have been submitted for consideration and comment to the local ACPC, and where appropriate to the Local Education Authority, and any comments taken into account in revising the school's procedures.
- 5.4** The school's procedures for responding to allegations or suspicions of abuse to a child (by a member of staff, another child, a visitor, a member of the child's family, at school, or elsewhere outside the school) include all the requirements set out in Appendix 1)
- 5.5** The school's policies and procedures and its induction process for staff make it clear that failure by a member of staff to report actual or reasonably suspected physical, sexual or emotional abuse or neglect of a child is a disciplinary offence.
- 5.6** The school has written guidance for staff who are subject to allegations against them. Such guidance will make clear ways in which staff may have access to information and support whilst an investigation ensues.
- 5.7** Written procedural guidance for staff is in line with ACPC guidance and procedures and clearly demonstrates the systems the school requires in order to protect children and minimise the risk of abuse whilst the child is living in the school. Such guidance must include the procedure for dealing with out of authority placements.
- 5.8** The Head Teacher of the school provides training for all staff, including ancillary staff, agency staff and volunteers, in the prevention and recognition of abuse, dealing with disclosures or suspicions of abuse, and

the school's child protection procedures. This training is included in induction programmes for new staff, including temporary or agency staff, and is ongoing for the staff group in keeping with the aims and objectives of the school.

- 5.9** The school and staff have routine links with other agencies concerned with child protection e.g. placing authorities, schools, hospitals, general practitioners, etc., and do not work in isolation from them.
- 5.10** The school follows any local interagency protocols on prevention and investigation of child prostitution.