

CHILD SAFEGUARDING ROLES IN ELC AND SAC SERVICES

Mandated Person

Only those listed in Schedule 2 of the Children First Act, 2015

Schedule 2 Mandated Persons:

The following classes of persons are specified as mandated persons for the purposes of this Act:

15. (j) childcare staff member employed in a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.

18. A person carrying on a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.

This means:

A childcare staff member employed in a preschool service and a person carrying on a preschool service are mandated persons under the Children First Act, 2015

Staff and operators of school aged childcare services are not included in Schedule 2 and therefore are not mandated persons.

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 ELC & SAC 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,

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.

ALL ELC AND SAC SERVICES ARE PROVIDERS OF RELEVANT SERVICES AND THEREFORE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO HAVE A CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Designated Liaison Person (DLP)

All organisations that are providing services to children and families should consider appointing a designated liaison person (DLP) 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

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'.



Individuals may have more than one of these roles and it is important that everybody is aware of their role(s) in safeguarding children

Part VIIA of the Childcare Act, 1991 states:

'Pre-school service' means any pre-school, play group, day nursery, crèche, day-care or other similar service which caters for pre-school children

'Early years' service' means a service providing

- (a) a pre-school service, or
- (b) a school age service;

