

# The importance of safeguarding children and young people



Task sheet on CYP 3. 3 2. 1 Explain the importance of safeguarding children and young people.

, Safeguarding children and young people is everybody's responsibility. It should be a concern of the whole community and all public services, not just ones providing directly to children and young people. Children and young adults are vulnerable and easily susceptible to serious harm if appropriate action for their safety is not taken. They do not yet have the physical and mental ability developed enough to care for themselves and need appropriate care and protection from adults around them. Health professionals and social care workers have a duty of care towards children under their care and as such they should do everything they can to keep the children and young adults safe from harm. The younger the child is, the more vigilant the carer should be and the greater the duty of care is.

This should continue until the child has the ability to anticipate and deal with potential dangers, has a more robust immune system, has empathy for others, and has communication skills developed enough to be able to articulate harm to themselves carried out by others. 2. 2 Explain the importance of a child or young person centred approach. This approach gives a lot of importance to the notion that children need to be protected, loved, cared, nurtured and protected from the adult world (Internet).

This approach enables the child to learn in a safe and fun environment to reach their goals and to focus on their individual needs which increases self-esteem and self-confidence. Child centered approach is also taken in nurseries, schools and colleges with young adults. The advantages are that

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the learning is focused on the child's needs, abilities, interests and learning styles with the teacher giving gentle guidance and encouragement rather than directing the learning process. This type of learning is an important part of the child's education as it encourages children to interact more with their peers through teamwork and collaboration. It increases the quality of communication and promotes discovery and active learning.

There is less disruptive behavior in the group and it builds the relationship between the child and key worker/teacher. Within this kind of approach, as they get older, children are more involved with the assessment of their own work so are more responsible for their own learning. This makes them more motivated and they take an active interest in their learning process.

The disadvantages are that the curriculum is limited and some teacher led activities and learning is still needed. Teacher led learning is also a very effective way to achieve excellence in children as they work towards high expectations set by the teacher as they progress through activities. They also learn to work towards rewards and grades as the work is assessed by teachers. 2.

3 Explain what is meant by partnership working in the context of safeguarding. Partnership working means different organisations working together, such as social services and schools. With regards to safeguarding it means establishing and abiding by guidelines and working within the laws set up to maintain the protection of children. Another good example is the collaboration of the police and the social services that has been established

under a joint protocol (Protocol for the Joint Investigation, by Social Workers and Police Officers, of Alleged and Suspected Child Abuse). The police are required to fully investigate any claim to a criminal offence and produce proof of the offence, whereas the social services are there to ensure that the welfare of both the child and the family are looked after. However, in many situations these overlap and there needs to be communication between the two organisations to share information so that the child is looked after in the safest way.

One of the best ways to do this is by using the Common Assessment Form (CAF) which is a standardised method of carrying out an assessment of children and may help to identify additional needs for the child and as this form is shared between agencies the co-ordination the providing provision to meet these additional needs may be enabled. For example, a teacher suspecting a child of needing additional care may contact the child's GP and find that they have already filled out a CAF. This is then shared with the teacher who also adds his/her observations to provide a fuller picture with as much detail as possible. In any case proceedings the evidence provided by Health professionals such as staff at A & E at hospitals, nurses, GPs, teachers, carers and others from other organisations should be available to pool together to form the best possible case.

This will ensure an effective safeguarding procedure is carried out with the child's best interests put foremost.