

# Childcare Connections

## Discipline and Child Protection

Discipline should be consistent and based on an understanding of individual needs and development of a child. The use of corporal punishment should be prohibited in all child care settings and by all providers. Additionally, it is mandatory for providers to inform the Department of Child and Family Services of any suspicion of a child suffering or has suffered significant harm.

### DISCIPLINE

#### **Day Care Centre Regulation 1999, Regulation 8**

- a) No child shall be subjected to physical punishment, humiliation, or verbal abuse;
- b) No child shall be denied food, shelter, clothing or bedding as a form of punishment;
- c) No child shall be punished for soiling, wetting or not using the toilet;
- d) No child shall be unattended at any time, including isolation periods.

**Please refer to the Child Care Standards 2018 Section 7 for a list of prohibited behaviors.**



### CHILD PROTECTION

A person who performs professional or official duties with respect to a child including a child care worker, who in the course of their professional or official duties, has reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is suffering or has suffered significant harm, shall report the suspicion to the Director together with the information upon which it is based. **Retrieved from the Children Act 1998 Part III Section 20 (1 & 2).**

**Significant Harm: means ill-treatment or impairment of health or development of a child. Please refer to the Children Act 1998 Part I Section 3 for examples of significant harm.**

To report a suspected case of child abuse call Contact the Intake section of DCFS at 278-9111 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Professionals can request an electronic copy of the referral form that must be submitted to the Department.

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