

Aberdeen City

From: Lesley Stopani <LStopani@aberdeencity.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 February 2019 10:57

To: Info <info@cypcs.org.uk>

Subject: Response ACC FAO Nick Hobbs

Importance: High

Good Morning

Further to the recent communication addressed to Angela Scott, as attached, please see below the response from Aberdeen City.

Aberdeen City has followed CALM policy in relation to Physical Restraint at levels 2 and above within the CALM framework. Staff undertaking these interventions require to be trained and the record-keeping is in line with CALM policy. We have been reviewing our use of CALM and this will inform future guidance. Schools also refer to the 'Minimising Exclusion' and 'Person Centred Risk Assessment' guidance, which promote the development of positive relationships.

A focus group has been convened to undertake the following:

- To collate key information within existing guidance (CALM, Minimising Exclusion, PCRA) to compile policy and guidance on Restraint and Seclusion
- To create an ACC statement for inclusion in school handbooks / websites
- To work with a group of learners to develop information and advice for children and young people
- To share revised policy and guidance with partners
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With regard to training the following are underway / planned:

- Specific training on Autism delivered by our Autism Outreach team, feedback will be reviewed to identify next steps in terms of staff needs
- A multi-agency conference 'Building Connections' is planned for 24th April 2019 to raise awareness of ACEs and Trauma

The purpose of these events is to equip colleagues with the knowledge and skills required to enable them to respond appropriately to children and young people whose behaviour indicates they are experiencing distress.

I would be happy to provide any further information required and would welcome the Commissioner to our event on the 24th April if this was felt appropriate.

Regards

Lesley Stopani

Quality Improvement Manager

Health & Wellbeing

Aberdeen City Council

From: Nick Hobbs [<mailto:nick.hobbs@cypcs.org.uk>]

Sent: 05 April 2019 14:31

Subject: FAO Director of Education - Restraint and Seclusion investigation

FAO Director of Education

Dear Sir/Madam

Our office published a report of our investigation into Restraint and Seclusion in Scotland's Schools on 14th December 2018. A number of recommendations in that report were directed at local authorities. The report included a 'requirement to respond'.

Specifically, in terms of sub-sections 11(2A) and 11(2B) of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2003, you are required to provide a statement in writing to the Commissioner setting out, either:

- what you have done or propose to do in response to the recommendations; or
- if you do not intend to do anything in response to the recommendations, the reasons for that

Although I am sure the recommendations have been discussed extensively within the authority and we have received a response from you, it does not make clear whether you accept all of the recommendations of the report or not. We do not wish to make assumptions and would like to ensure that positions are clear. For the avoidance of doubt therefore - please let us know by close of play on **Monday 15th April** if there are any recommendations relevant to your authority that you do not accept and why.

Please note that we will shortly be publishing in full all responses received from local authorities.

Kind regards

Nick Hobbs

Head of Advice and Investigations

Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland

Bridgeside House

99 McDonald Road

Edinburgh

EH7 4NS

From: Lesley Stopani <LStopani@aberdeencity.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 April 2019 16:42

To: Nick Hobbs <nick.hobbs@cypcs.org.uk>

Subject: RE: FAO Director of Education - Restraint and Seclusion investigation

Good Afternoon

Can you share information you require to enable me to respond. I may not be able to access the submission made previously. I will attempt to provide any missing information before Monday.

Lesley Stopani

From: Nick Hobbs <nick.hobbs@cypcs.org.uk>

Sent: 07 April 2019 20:43:09

To: Lesley Stopani

Subject: RE: FAO Director of Education - Restraint and Seclusion investigation

Hi Lesley

We're just looking for an indication of which, if any, recommendations the authority does not accept. There was no indication in your response that you did not accept any but as you didn't address each recommendation individually we want to be certain.

Thank you for your response. Best wishes

Nick Hobbs

Head of Advice and Investigations

Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland

Bridgeside House

99 McDonald Road

Edinburgh

EH7 4NS

From: Lesley Stopani <LStopani@aberdeencity.gov.uk>

Sent: 08 April 2019 10:10

To: Nick Hobbs <nick.hobbs@cypcs.org.uk>

Subject: Re: FAO Director of Education - Restraint and Seclusion investigation

Good Morning

Apologies for my confusion. Please be advised that we accept the recommendations.

Regards

Lesley Stopani
