



SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS 2019

Children First Compliance



National Guidance for the
Protection and Welfare
of Children

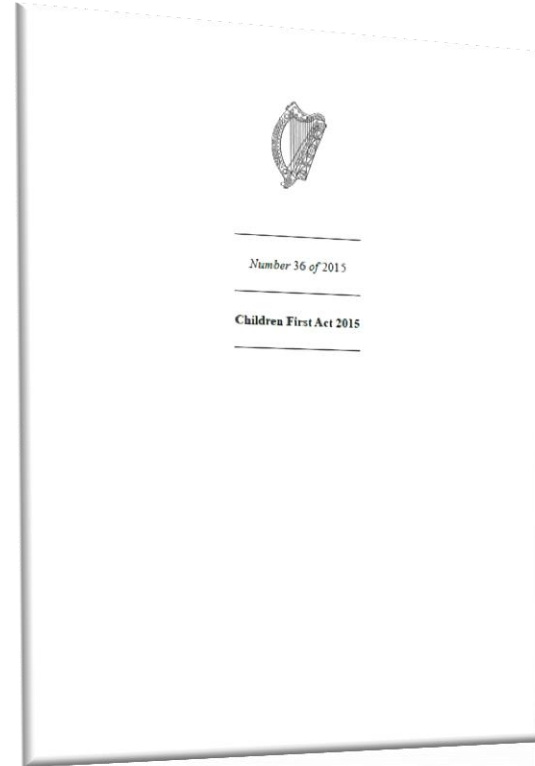
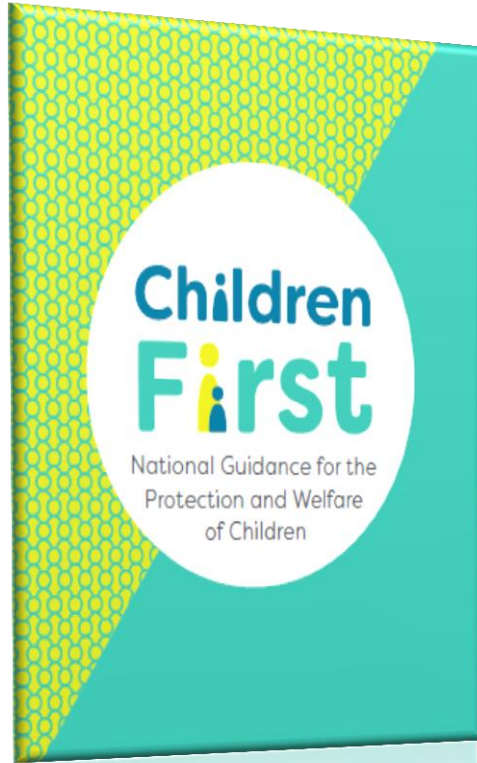
hello my name is...



Key Points

- What is Children First?
- What does it require of your staff and your service?
- What are consequences of non-compliance?
- Children First in the Service Arrangements

Key Documents

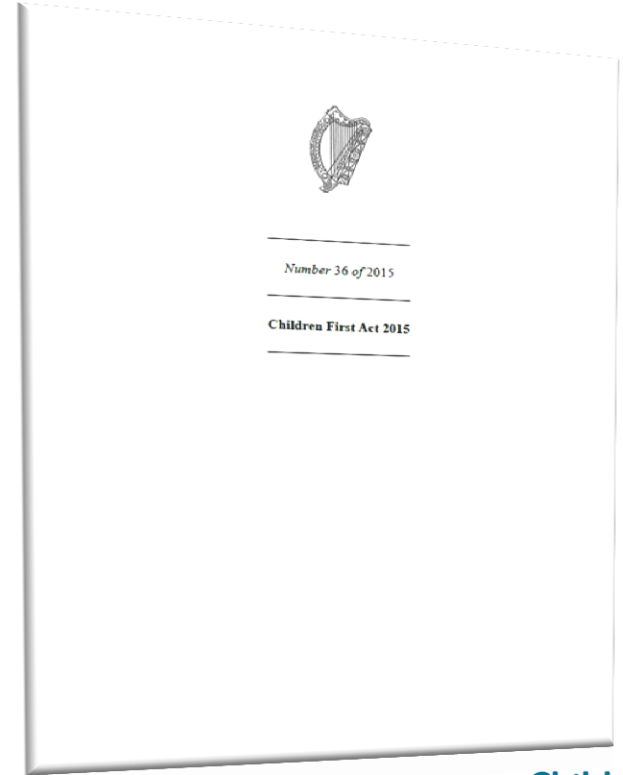


The safety and welfare
of children is
EVERYONE'S
responsibility regardless
of role or grade



Children First Act

- Fully commenced in December 2017
- Legal requirements on:
 - ✓ 'relevant services'
 - ✓ 'mandated persons'



Relevant 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 (full list of Relevant Services specified in Schedule 1 of the Children First Act 2015)

Relevant Funded Services must:

- Complete a Children First Risk Assessment
- Create and display a Child Safeguarding Statement
- Appoint a Relevant Person – Risk Assessment and Child Safeguarding Statement
- Maintain a list of mandated persons

Mandated Persons

Mandated Persons have two main legal obligations under the Children First Act:

- To report the **harm** of children above a defined threshold to Tusla
- To provide **Mandated Assistance** to Tusla, if requested, in assessing a concern, which has been the subject of a mandated report

Funded Agencies that are 'relevant services' must:

- Maintain a list of mandated persons
- Ensure that all mandated persons are aware of their responsibilities

Consequences of Non-Compliance

- Non-Compliance notice
- Register of Non-Compliance
- Consequences for Staff
- Compliance with all aspects of Children First is part of the Service Arrangement with funded organisations

Service Arrangements 2019

- Children First Compliance:
 - Schedule 2 Quality & Safety (p.8)
 - Schedule 3 Service Delivery Specifications (pp. 18, 19)
 - Schedule 4 Performance Monitoring (p. 25)
 - Schedule 5 Information Requirements (pp. 32, 34)

Schedule 3

“All staff in HSE funded and contracted agencies including those in agencies supporting adults must complete the HSE ‘Children First’ eLearning Module, which is available through HSELand – www.hseland.ie. Staff must complete the online module prior to commencement of work or as soon as practicable on commencement. The training must be completed every 3 years”.

Schedule 4

Children First Compliance:

Schedule 4 Performance Monitoring (p. 25)

Information Requirements

Ref No.	Report Required	Applicable [√]	HSE – Department for returns	Annual	Bi-annual	Quarterly	Monthly
	<p>‘Children First’ website for information https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/primarycare/childrenfirst/childrenfirstnationaloffice/</p> <p>Compliance with Children First Act 2015 and Children First National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017.</p> <p>Complete ‘Implementation and Compliance Self-assessment Checklist for HSE funded Agencies’ available at https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/2/primarycare/childrenfirst/resources/checklist.doc</p>	<p>✓</p>		<p>Checklist is to be completed annually in line with declaration at Schedule 5. It is not required to be returned to the HSE, however it must be retained by the Provider for HSE review, on request</p>			

Schedule 5

Children First Compliance:

Schedule 5 Information Requirements (pp. 32, 34)

Annual Declarations By signing these Schedules and indicating ‘Yes’ below you are affirming these declarations. <u>Mandatory</u>	Yes	No	N/A	Comment If no provide details / reasons / steps taken etc. In separate submission
I confirm that I have complied with all requirements of the Children First Act 2015 and Children First Guidance 2017				
(i) A Risk Assessment has been carried out (this applies to relevant services as per Schedule 1 of the Act)				
(ii) A Child Safeguarding Statement is in place (this applies to relevant services as per Schedule 1 of the Act)				
(iii) Mandated Persons (as per Schedule 2 of the Act) have been identified and informed of their roles (applies to all services)				
(iv) A Child Protection and Welfare Policy is in place (applies to all services)				
(v) All staff and volunteers have completed the HSE e-Learning Module “An Introduction to Children First” (applies to all services)				
(vi) The HSE Children First Compliance Self-Assessment Checklist has been completed (applies to all services)				

How Can the CFNO Assist?

- TDOs available to support funding managers in HSE
- TDOs available to support any funded agency that is struggling with compliance
- TDOs can provide briefings directly to funded agencies re Children First compliance requirements and guidance on how to meet these
- Briefing material available for agencies to provide further briefings to relevant staff as necessary
- Support development of action plans. Funded agencies themselves will be required to implement and monitor this plan.
- Future training developments

Key Take Home Messages

- Implications of Children First legislation
- Requirements of you and your staff
- Non-compliance Consequences
- Changes to Service Arrangements 2019

Support Documents



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

Building a
Better Health
Service

Thank You

HSE Children First National Office

Further information and resources
available at: www.hse.ie/childrenfirst

Contact details of the
HSE Children First Training &
Development Officers
can be viewed on the website or
each TDO can insert their own
contact details/emails and mention
national email contact
childrenfirst@hse.ie