

Handout 6.3

National Occupational Standards for Work with Parents

Principles and Values of Work with Parents*

- Respect the rights of the child in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
- Work in partnership with parents at all times
- Mothers, fathers and those in a parenting role are acknowledged as having unique knowledge and information about their children
- Children are the responsibility of the wider society as well as their families
- Work with Parents should be non-judgmental and anti-discriminatory and should seek to empower by building on and valuing parents' existing strengths, knowledge and experience
- Parenting education and support should be available to all those in a parenting role
- Gender, cultural diversity and different needs must be respected; entitlement, quality and inclusiveness are of fundamental importance to those who work with parents
- Anyone who works with parents should have specific training for that purpose
- Good practice requires reflection and a continuing search for improvement

* The term "parents" is used to mean mothers, fathers, carers and other adults with responsibility for caring for a child, including step parents, adoptive parents, foster parents, grandparents or other family carers, gay and lesbian parents and their partners, residential care workers, and carers of young offenders.

Units and Elements for Work with Parents

Estimate how well you meet the Standards – go through the list and:

- ✓ put a tick against each one you feel you can apply
- & score yourself out of 10, where 10 = excellent
- ? put a question mark against those you are not sure about
- ✗ cross any you feel you may not meet at present

WWP 201 Contribute to building relationships in work with parents

WWP 201.1 Listen and respond to parents

WWP 201.2 Help parents to use parenting services

WWP 202 Provide access to knowledge and information

WWP 202.1 Request and provide information in an appropriate language and format

WWP 202.2 Directly provide knowledge and information to parents

WWP 202.3 Enable parents to access knowledge and information

WWP 203 Contribute to providing safe, inclusive environments

WWP 203.1 Help parents to feel comfortable and confident

WWP 203.2 Value and respect the diversity in culture and background of parents

WWP 204 Help to keep parents safe and secure

WWP 204.1 Follow procedures in relation to security and safety

WWP 204.2 Recognise threats to safety and security

WWP 204.3 Follow emergency procedures

WWP 301 Build and maintain relationships in work with parents

WWP 301.1 Negotiate and agree the basis of relationships with parents

WWP 301.2 Agree the boundaries of the relationship

WWP 301.3 Maintain the relationship with parents

WWP 302 Communicate effectively with parents

WWP 302.1 Encourage and facilitate communication with parents

WWP 302.2 Recognise and respond to communication needs

WWP 302.3 Recognise and respond to barriers in communication

WWP 303 Ensure confidentiality whilst maintaining good practice in child protection

WWP 303.1 Maintain confidentiality

WWP 303.2 Maintain records and keep them confidential

WWP 303.3 Respond to child protection concerns

WWP 304 Build and maintain relationships with colleagues engaged in work with parents

WWP 304.1 Establish contact and communicate effectively with colleagues

WWP 304.2 Recognise and value the work of colleagues

WWP 305 Build and maintain relationships with the wider community

WWP 305.1 Identify and make contact with key stakeholders in the wider community

WWP 305.2 Seek opportunities to network with key stakeholders in the wider community

WWP 305.3 Share information and encourage a supportive approach towards parents from the wider community

WWP 306 Enable parents to reflect on influences on parenting and the parent-child relationship

WWP 306.1 Help parents to look at influences on parenting and recognise their effects

306.2 Work with parents to use knowledge and awareness of influences on parenting

WWP 307 Work with parents to meet their children's needs

WWP 307.1 Work with parents to understand the evolving and interdependent nature of the relationship between parents and their children

WWP 307.2 Work with parents to provide age-appropriate support for one of the following age groups of children:
(detailed in Unit)

WWP 308 Enable parents to develop ways of handling relationships and behaviour that contributes to every day life with children

WWP 308.1 Help parents understand and respond to childrens' feelings and behaviour

WWP308.2 Help parents to interact with their children in positive ways

WWP 308.3 Develop parents' knowledge of how to support childrens' play, learning and creativity

WWP 308.4 Work with parents to help them meet their identified needs

WWP 309 Work with parents to understand and meet their own needs +

WWP 309.1 Facilitate exploration of parents' needs

WWP 309.2 Work with parents to help them meet their identified needs

WWP 310 Reflect on and update own knowledge and practice

WWP 310.1 Reflect on and evaluate the effectiveness of your own practice

WWP 310.2 Identify and make use of opportunities to develop and update practice and learn from the experience of others

WWP 310.3 Incorporate new knowledge, the experience of others and current thinking into own practice

WWP 311 Contribute to the work of a team

WWP 311.1 Work as a member of a team

WWP 311.2 Support others to develop their roles

WWP 312 Deliver services that value and respect parents

WWP 312.1 Listen to parents and acknowledge their feelings and experiences

WWP 312.2 Recognise parents' strengths and help them to build on these

WWP 312.3 Promote the value and recognition of diversity in society and in parenting roles

WWP 312.4 Recognise the barriers that individual families may face and identify the support they need

WWP 313 Provide services that meet parents' needs

WWP 313.1 Work with parents to agree their needs

WWP 313.2 Work with parents to explore the effects of challenges and change

WWP 313.3 Work with parents to develop strategies to manage change and challenges

WWP 314 Work with parents with complex needs who find services hard to reach

WWP 314.1 Design services that meet parents' needs

WWP 314.2 Enable parents to access services and support

WWP 314.3 Enable parents with complex needs to learn about parenting

WWP 315 Meet requirements for the protection and safety of parents

WWP 315.1 Help to protect adults from abuse

WWP 315.2 Implement health, safety and security procedures

WWP 315.3 Follow emergency procedures

WWP 316 Provide environments that are sensitive to the culture, religion, gender or disability of the parents

WWP 316.1 Provide an environment in which parents feel comfortable and confident

WWP 316.2 Provide physical equipment, resources and surrounding that meet parents' needs

WWP 317 Publicise services and recruit parents

WWP 317.1 Provide publicity and information about parenting services

WWP 317.2 Recruit parents into parenting programmes

WWP 318 Develop training sessions

WWP 318.1 Identify options for training sessions

WWP 318.2 Deliver training sessions to learners

WWP 319 Work with groups of parents

WWP 319.1 Negotiate and agree the scope and basis of the work

WWP 319.2 Select strategies and materials to meet the needs of the group

WWP 319.3 Enable the effective working of the group

WWP 401 Develop and undertake inter-agency, cross-sector working

WWP 401.1 Promote integration and cross-sector strategies

WWP 401.2 Communicate and liaise effectively with other agencies/sectors

WWP 401.3 Establish boundaries and define agency roles

WWP 402 Support others in developing their practice

WWP 402.1 Support and share problems and difficult issues with others

WWP 402.2 Share own experience to benefit others

WWP 403 Provide leadership to your team**WWP 404 Manage or coordinate sensitive and inclusive parenting environments**

WWP 404.1 Promote a culture that values diversity and difference

WWP 404.2 Help practitioners to respond to the needs of parents for an inclusive environment

WWP 404.3 Monitor and review the effectiveness of the environments in promoting inclusion

WWP 405 Take responsibility for the safety and security of parents, staff and environments

WWP 405.1 Comply with health and safety requirements

WWP 405.2 Ensure that staff have regular, updated training for health and safety and child protection

WWP 405.3 Develop systems and procedures for sharing information in relation to child protection

WWP 406 Coordinate resources

WWP 406.1 Secure and deploy resources

WWP 406.2 Monitor and evaluate the effective use of resources

WWP 407 Monitor and evaluate the impact of trends and developments in parenting

WWP 407.1 Identify and analyse information about parenting

WWP 407.2 Evaluate the impact of trends and developments in parenting

WWP 408 Promote a culture of quality in parenting provision

WWP 408.1 Raise the profile of quality in the delivery of work with parents

WWP 408.2 Establish, maintain and review quality assurance systems and procedures

WWP 409 Ensure compliance with legal, regulatory, ethical and social requirements †

www.parentinguk.org/2/standards/units-and-elements

† Some units are optional for managers of services for parents.

Each unit has a detailed description of the Performance Criteria which show whether a person meets the standard in their work.

For example: www.parentinguk.org/files/downloads/WWP201.pdf