Care Certificate Workbook

Safeguarding Children
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Do you need this workbook?

You need to do all 15 Care Certificate Standards. This workbook is designed to support you to learn about Standard 11. **Your manager is responsible for checking your knowledge, understanding and competence in your specific workplace(s).**

If you already have a good level of knowledge and experience, you could take an assessment instead and only do sections of the workbook (or sections of our eLearning) that you need to. Your knowledge would be recorded and you can build an evidence portfolio. **This will save you and your manager a lot of time.** Your organisation may have free or funded access to our assessment system. Check with your manager before you start this workbook. More information can be found at [www.CareCertificate.co.uk](http://www.CareCertificate.co.uk).

The following symbols refer to actions you should take to achieve the outcomes. There is also an action checklist at the end of this workbook.

Reference “Manager”

We refer to “manager” through the workbook. This may mean something different in your role, for example: supervisor, line manager, coach, buddy, mentor, employer or assessor. This is the person responsible for checking you are competent and confident to work.
Safeguarding Children is closely linked with Safeguarding Adults (Standard 10). The types of abuse, possible indicators and how to recognition the indicators are covered in Standard 10.

Safeguarding Children is more than just ‘child protection’. It is defined in ‘Working together to safeguard children 2013’ as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children’s health and development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

It incorporates the actions needed to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility and everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play.
Under **The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012**, it is a legal requirement for employers to check that employees are suitable to work with children using DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service). The DBS processes criminal records checks and manages the Barred Children’s and Barred Adults’ Lists of unsuitable people who should not work or volunteer in regulated activities with these groups of individuals.

**A child protection policy** is a statement of intent that demonstrates a commitment to safeguard children.

**Child protection procedures** should be linked with the Local Safeguarding Children Board’s procedures and should include a description of what child abuse is, and the procedures for how to respond to it.
Under **the Children Act 1989**, a **child in need** is defined as those whose **vulnerability** is such that they are unlikely to reach or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health and development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services, including those who are disabled. Some children are in need because they are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.
Child abuse and neglect is when a person inflicts harm on a child or fails to protect them from harm.

This may be in a family environment or in an institutional or community setting. The perpetrator may be known to them or, more rarely, a stranger.
The main types of abuse are:

**Physical…**

...includes: hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning / scalding, drowning, suffocating, or any action that may cause physical harm to a child.

Physical harm also includes when a parent or carer deliberately induces, illness in a child or fabricates the symptoms of an illness.

**Psychological / Emotional…**

...includes: persistent emotional maltreatment of a child that results in severe and persistent adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. For example: telling a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or having inappropriate expectations.

It can also include overprotection and limitation of the child participating in normal social interaction, serious bullying and exploitation. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of abuse although it may occur alone.
Sexual...

...includes: forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, including prostitution, (the child may not be aware of what is happening).

The activities may involve physical contact (penetrative (e.g. rape, buggery or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts.

Non-contact (activities involving forcing a child to look at, or in the production of sexual on-line images, watching sexual activities, or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways).

Neglect and Acts of Omission...

...includes: the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and/or psychological needs (e.g. food, clothing, shelter).

Neglect can also occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Neglect is likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development.
Female genital mutilation (FGM)…

…means to remove, constrict or otherwise disfigure a girl’s labia or clitoris for non-medical reasons. Some use religious, social and cultural reasons to justify FGM.

Includes; severe pain, bleeding, chronic infections and damage to the reproductive system and fertility; psychological, mental health and sexual problems.

There is a risk of girls being taken abroad to carry out FGM.

Radicalisation…

… Is a process by which children and young people are taught extreme, often violent, ideas based on political, social or religious beliefs.

Includes: changes in behaviour and the way they speak with others; a new circle of friends, use of extremist terminology, reading material or messages.

Child trafficking…

…means taking advantage of children and young people by recruiting, moving or receiving them through force, trickery or intimidation.

Includes; a child appears unkempt, withdrawn or compliant to a domineering adult. The child may also show little or no use of the English language.
To **safeguard** and **promote** the welfare of children is defined for the purpose of statutory guidance under the **Children Acts 1989** and **2004** respectively as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children’s health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

**The processes for safeguarding children:**

If you have concerns about a child, refer your concerns to your manager initially. Your manager should be able to work with you and follow the appropriate process. Part of the process is to contact children’s social care or the police.

Use the links below for more information:

11.1 If you work in Health
Meet the national minimum training standards for Safeguarding Children at level 1

If you work in health you will need to meet the **National Minimum Training Standards for Safeguarding Children at Level 1** as set out in “Safeguarding Children and Young people: roles and competences for health care staff.” (Intercollegiate Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health 2014).

The website for this information can be found at:

11.2 If you work in Social Care
Explain what you must do if you suspect a child, young person (met in any circumstances) is being abused or neglected

In any circumstance, if you have any concerns about a child or young person, you should raise these concerns with your manager or follow your organisation’s agreed ways of working.

You may be supporting an adult who has a child or children you are concerned about. Harm and neglect may be unintentional and parent(s)/carer(s) may be struggling to provide for their family.

Report

Whatever the situation, as with adult safeguarding, you have a duty to report concerns, suspicions, or if a child or young person confides in you. Follow the correct procedures to help prevent abuse and neglect from occurring.
If you’re worried a child is being abused you should act quickly:

- Check your policies and procedures
- Speak to your manager or another senior person in your organisation

If these do not exist or you do not get a response you can contact:

- Safeguarding Children Team at the Local Authority
- Local Safeguarding Children’s Board
- The Police

Children have died as a result of people thinking that someone else is looking out for a child and professionals not taking action, therefore, it is extremely important to act on any concerns you have.

Standard 10 Safeguarding Adults describes abuse and neglect and gives you a bit more information about abuse in relation to adults.

Locate and read your organisations agreed ways of working on raising concerns about the abuse and neglect of children and young people.
Your checklist....

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Tick</th>
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<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Icon" /></td>
<td>Locate and read your organisations agreed ways of working on raising concerns about the neglect and abuse of children</td>
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<td>11.2</td>
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<td>Standard 10 Safeguarding Adults describes abuse and neglect and gives a bit more information about abuse in relation to adults.</td>
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Well done! You have completed this workbook. What’s next.....

An essential part of the Care Certificate is to assess, evidence and record what you have learnt. You may be entitled to use our assessment and evidence recording system. Your manager is responsible for supporting you with this, observing your practice and ensuring you are competent in your workplace, with the people you support.

Checking your knowledge, competence and practice will be a regular part of your ongoing Continuous Professional Development.

By taking an assessment first, you may find you already have some, most, or all of the knowledge required and you can save time by avoiding repeating subjects and courses unnecessarily.

More information about our resources can be found at www.CareCertificate.co.uk.

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