

Self-Audit Tool

1	Children and the organisation	A	B	C
1.	The agency is very clear about its responsibility to protect children and makes this known to all who come into contact with it.			
2.	The way staff and other representatives behave towards children suggests that they are committed to protecting children from abuse.			
3.	There is good awareness of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) or other children's rights instruments and this is seen as a basis for child protection in the organisation.			
4.	Managers and senior staff ensure that children are listened to and consulted and that their rights are met.			
5.	The agency makes it clear that all children have equal rights to protection.			
6.	The agency manages children's behaviour in ways that are non-violent and do not degrade or humiliate children.			
2	Policies and procedures that help keep children safe	A	B	C
1.	The agency has a written child protection policy or has some clear arrangements to make sure that children are kept safe from harm.			
2.	The policy or arrangements are approved and endorsed by the relevant management body (eg, senior management board, executive, committee).			
3.	The policy or arrangements have to be followed by everyone.			
4.	There are clear child protection procedures in place that provide step-by-step guidance on what action to take if there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare.			
5.	There is a named child protection person/s with clearly defined role and responsibilities.			
6.	The child protection procedures also take account of local circumstances.			
3	Preventing harm to children	A	B	C
1.	There are policies and procedures or agreed ways of recruiting representatives and for assessing their suitability to work with children, including where possible police and reference checks.			
2.	There are some written guidelines for behaviour or some way of describing to staff and other representatives what behaviour is acceptable and unacceptable especially when it comes to contact			

	with children.			
3.	The consequences of breaking the guidelines on behaviour are clear and linked to organisational disciplinary procedures.			
4.	Guidance exists on appropriate use of information technology such as the internet, websites, digital cameras etc to ensure that children are not put at risk.			
5.	Where there is direct responsibility for running/providing activities, including residential care, children are adequately supervised and protected at all times.			
6.	There are well-publicised ways in which staff/ representatives can raise concerns, confidentially if necessary, about unacceptable behaviour by other staff or representatives.			
4	Implementation and training	A	B	C
1.	There is clear guidance to staff, partners and other organisations (including funding organisations) on how children will be kept safe.			
2.	Child protection must be applied in ways that are culturally sensitive but without condoning acts that are harmful to children.			
3.	There is a written plan showing what steps will be taken to keep children safe.			
4.	All members of staff and volunteers have training on child protection when they join the organisation which includes an introduction to the organisation's child protection policy and procedures where these exist.			
5.	All members of staff and other representatives are provided with opportunities to learn about how to recognise and respond to concerns about child abuse.			
6.	Work has been undertaken with all partners to agree good practice expectations based on these standards.			
5	Information and communication	A	B	C
1.	Children are made aware of their right to be safe from abuse.			
2.	Everyone in the organisation knows which named staff member has special responsibilities for keeping children safe and how to contact them.			
3.	Contact details are readily available for local child protection resources, safe places, national authorities and emergency medical help.			
4.	Children are provided with information on where to go to for help			

	and advice in relation to abuse, harassment and bullying.			
5.	Contacts are established at a national and/or local level with the relevant child protection/welfare agencies as appropriate.			
6.	Staff members with special responsibilities for keeping children safe have access to specialist advice, support and information.			
6	Monitoring and review	A	B	C
1.	Arrangements are in place to monitor compliance with child protection measures put in place by the organisation.			
2.	Steps are taken to regularly ask children and parents/carers their views on policies and practices aimed at keeping children safe and the effectiveness of these.			
3.	The organisation uses the experience of operating child protection systems to influence policy and practice development.			
4.	All incidents, allegations of abuse and complaints are recorded and monitored.			
5.	Policies and practices are reviewed at regular intervals, ideally at least every three years.			
6.	Children and parents/carers are consulted as part of a review of safeguarding policies and practices.			