

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Cymunedau a Threchu Tlodi
Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref MB/LG/0971/15

7

March 2015

Jocelyn Davies AM
Assembly Member for South East Wales
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Dear Jocelyn

During my questions in Plenary on 26th February, I said I would write to you to update you on the approach within Flying Start to the physical punishment of children.

There is a strong legal framework to provide for the protection of children at home and in the community. The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 prohibit "any form of corporal punishment" by nursery workers and child care workers. All Flying Start childcare settings must be registered and regulated by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales. They must have regard to the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Childcare which state children should never be smacked.

Within Flying Start, positive parenting support is delivered primarily through the parenting and health visiting entitlements. Health visitors provide one-to-one advice to parents in the home and in group settings. They are also supported in this work, by family support workers and other relevant practitioners. A range of support is provided for parents depending on their individual assessed needs and circumstances. This could be one-to-one support, informal groups, or a formal evidence-based parenting programme.

Parents living in Flying Start areas are actively encouraged to access Flying Start services and activities. They are given the opportunity to attend a range of parenting support to encourage baby bonding and attachment. As their children grow they will be able to access support to build their confidence to handle their child's behaviour in a positive nurturing way and build healthy relationships with their children.

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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Revised Flying Start parenting support guidance was published in September 2014. It contains a firm expectation for Local Authorities and their partners to consistently promote positive parenting principles across the whole Flying Start programme.

Regards
Lesley

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