

Ag Deighleáil le Nochtaithe ó Leanaí

Nuair a dhéanann leanbh nochtadh ar Dhrochúsáid, is gá glacadh leis go han-dáiríre. Tá sé fíor-thábhachtach go ndéantar deighleáil le nochtaithe mar is cuí, ní hamháin ar son leas an linbh ach lena chinntiú nach gcuireann do chuid gníomhaíochtaí cás dlí ar bith a d'fhéadfaí a thógáil in aghaidh an drochúsáideoir i mbaol.



Má fhaigheann tú nochtadh ó leanbh ar dhíobháil atá os cionn an tairseach díobhála ní mór duit, mar dhuine faoi shainordú, dul i gcomhairle leis an Duine Idirchaidrimh Ainmnithe (DIA) agus tuairisc faoi shainordú a dhéanamh le Tusla. Ní fútsa atá sé fírinne na líomhaintí sin nó creidiúnacht an linbh a mheas.

Is dócha go mbeidh leanbh ar a ndearnadh mí-úsáid faoi strus mhothúchánach tromchúiseach agus b'fhéidir gur tú an t-aon duine fásta amháin a bhfuil an leanbh in ann muinín a chur iontu. Ní mór duit feidhmiú le hanchúram ionas nach ndéantar dochar don mhuinín sin.

Nuair a thairgtear faisnéis i muinín, is gá a bheith stuama & íogair maidir leis an nochtadh a fhreagairt. Beidh ort an leanbh a chur ar a s(h)uaimhneas, agus iarracht a dhéanamh muinín an linbh a choinneáil, agus ag an am chéanna a mhíniú go mbeidh ort daoine eile a chur ar an eolas faoi seo.

Tá sé tábhachtach a insint don leanbh go ndéanfar gach rud is féidir chun é/í a chosaint agus a thacú, ach gan aon ghealltanais a dhéanamh nach féidir a choinneáil, mar shampla, gealladh gan aon duine eile a chur ar an eolas faoi.

Tá sé tábhachtach déileáil le haon líomhain mí-úsáide nó faillí ar bhealach íogair, inniúil agus gairmiúil trí éisteacht leis an leanbh agus é/í a éascú chun labhairt faoin bhfadhb, seachas agallamh a dhéanamh leis an leanbh faoin méid a tharla.

Moltar an cur chuige seo a leanas mar dhea-chleachtas chun déileáil leis na nochtuithe seo:

- Freagair go socair
- Éist go cúramach agus go haireach
- Creid an leanbh
- Cuir in iúl don leanbh go ndearna sé/sí an rud ceart trí labhairt leat
- Ná geall aon rud a choinneáil faoi rún
- Cuir ceisteanna ar mhaithe le soiléireachta amháin. Ná cuir treoircheisteanna
- Seiceáil leis an leanbh go bhfuil an méid a chuala tú ceart agus gur thuig tú é
- Ná tabhair barúil ar bith faoin mí-úsáideoir líomhnaithe
- Cinntigh go dtuigeann an leanbh na nósanna imeachta atá le leanúint ina dhiaidh
- Déan taifead scríofa den chomhrá a luaithe is féidir, ina bhfuil an oiread sin mionsonraí agus is féidir
- Tuairiscigh an nochtadh don DIA nó an Leas-DIA gan mhoill
- Déileáil leis an bhfaisnéis go rúnda, faoi réir na riachtanas den Tús Áite do Leanaí: Treoir Náisiúnta 2017 agus na reachtaíochta ábhartha

Ní mór cuimhneamh i gcónaí go bhfuil ról tacaíochta, ní ról imscrúdaitheach ag an lucht foirne scoile.

Nótaí Tábhachtacha

- Ní mór freagra a thabhairt ar aon fhorais réasúnta inní. Trí neamhaird a dhéanamh ar rud a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ina chomhartha mí-úsáide, d'fhéadfaí díobháil leanúnach a dhéanamh don leanbh.
- Is gá gníomhú ar an tslí chéanna má déantar nochtadh ar dhrochúsáid a tharla san am atá thart, mar go mbeidh sé tábhachtach a fháil amach an bhfuil an drochúsáideoir sin fós ag obair le leanaí nó go bhfuil teacht aige/aici ar leanaí.
- Níl dabht ar bith ach go bhfuil sé fíor-dheacair deighleáil le líomhain drochúsáide ar leanbh a cuirtear in aghaidh comhghleacaí ar fhoireann na scoile ach is gá glacadh leis go han-dáiríre agus deileáil leis go cúramach agus go féaráilte.

Dealing with Disclosures from Children

Gaeilscoil
Thaobh na Coille



When a child does disclose abuse, this needs to be taken very seriously. It is important that any disclosure is dealt with appropriately, both for the wellbeing of the child and also to ensure that your actions do not jeopardise legal action against the abuser.

If as a mandated person, you receive a disclosure of harm from a child, which is above the thresholds, you must consult with the Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and make a mandated report of the concern to Tusla. You are not required to judge the truth of the claims or the credibility of the child.

An abused child is likely to be under severe emotional stress and you may be the only adult whom the child is prepared to trust. Great care shall be taken not to damage that trust. When information is offered in confidence, you will need tact & sensitivity in responding to the disclosure.

You will need to reassure the child, and endeavour to retain his or her trust, while explaining the need for action which will necessarily involve other adults being informed. It is important to tell the child that everything possible will be done to protect and support him or her, but not to make promises that cannot be kept e.g. promising not to tell anyone else.

It is important to deal with any allegation of abuse or neglect in a sensitive, competent and professional way through listening to and facilitating the child to tell about the problem, rather than interviewing the child about details of what happened.

The following approach is suggested as best practice for dealing with these disclosures:

- React calmly
- Listen carefully and attentively
- Take the child seriously
- Reassure the child that they have taken the right action in talking to you
- Do not promise to keep anything secret
- Ask questions for clarification only
- Do not ask leading questions
- Check back with the child that what you have heard is correct and understood
- Do not express any opinions about the alleged abuser
- Ensure that the child understands the procedures that will follow
- Make a written record of the conversation as soon as possible, in as much detail as possible
- Report the disclosure to the DLP or Deputy DLP without delay
- Treat the information confidentially, subject to the requirements of the Children First National Guidance 2017 and relevant legislation

It must always be remembered that school personnel have a supportive, not an investigative role.

Important Notes

- Any reasonable grounds for concern must elicit a response. Ignoring what may be symptoms of abuse could result in ongoing harm to the child.
- The same action should be taken if the allegation is about abuse that has taken place in the past, as it will be important to find out if the person is still working with or has access to children
- Dealing with an allegation that a colleague on the school staff has abused a child is difficult but must be taken seriously and dealt with carefully and fairly