



BROTHERS OF CHARITY SERVICES IRELAND

EDUCATION SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN IN RESPITE/ RESIDENTIAL CARE POLICY

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Ethos

'We are committed to working with people with an intellectual disability to claim their rightful place as valued citizens. Inclusion is a fundamental principle that underlies all aspects of our work. We believe in the intrinsic value of every person and we aim to further the dignity of all associated with our services.'

'We continue the Brothers of Charity Services' tradition of being open to the best contemporary influences. We want to be inspired by the most creative ideas ...and to ask how we give them concrete expression.'

The Brothers of Charity Services Ethos (2001), Going Forward Together.

1.0 Introduction

The Brothers of Charity Services Ireland endeavour to offer services/supports in local communities. This enables each person who is supported by our services to positively engage in the social and economic life of their local towns and villages and in doing so, develop a range of relationships that enhance their quality of life. Our responses are based on the recognition of each person (who is supported by our service) as an individual, an equal citizen with equal rights and an absolute respect of that status. We, therefore, support each person to live their lives based on their own personal visions and choices, to identify and select their personal goals in life and to develop their personal plan to achieve those goals.

2.0 Policy Statement

The Brothers of Charity Services Ireland provide respite and residential services to children with Intellectual Disabilities who may either attend a mainstream pre-school / school or a special pre-school / school. The Services promote and actively support the educational attainment of children who avail of Residential / Respite Services.

3.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Educational Support Policy is to maintain and promote good communication between the child's educational placement and respite/residential house to ensure agreement and clarity on the Services role, in addition to the child's family, in the child's education supports especially for short break respite arrangements

4.0 Scope

All staff working in children's respite / residential services must comply with this policy.

5.0 Legislation/other related policies

- Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act (EPSEN), 2004.
- Bunreacht na hEireann.
- Health Act 2007 (Care and Support of Residents in Designated Centres for Persons (Children and Adults) with Disabilities) Regulations 2013
- Data Protection Act 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018

In order to fulfil its obligations as a Service Provider the Brothers of Charity Services Ireland is required to create and process records which hold both personal and sensitive data. These records are kept 'in confidence' and processed in strict accordance with the privacy and data protection rights of the individual. The BOCSI shares records only for the purpose of compliance with service delivery, health, and regulatory requirements. Data will be disclosed where required or authorised by law and in line with the General Data Protection Regulations.

6.0 Glossary of Terms and Definitions

Staff	includes all persons paid or unpaid who support individuals in our Services
The Services	refers to the Brothers of Charity Services Ireland (BOCSI)

7.0 Roles and Responsibilities

Sector Managers/Regional Services Managers, Services Managers, Team Leaders responsible for ensuring

- that staff are aware of this Policy
- that staff comply with this Policy
- the implementation of this Policy in their areas of remit

8.0 Procedure

The staff of the Residential/Respite Service will where appropriate:

- 8.1 Agree, in writing with the Parents/Guardians, the Services specific role in relation to supporting the child's education i.e. liaising with schools, attending school meetings etc. and how parents are updated and keep the Services updated in this regard.

- 8.2 Seek consent from Parent/s / Guardians to share information with educational placement as per the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR.
- 8.3 Maintain and foster links with the child's educational placement.
- 8.4 Co-ordinate with school staff to ensure that both sets of staff are working together in an integrated manner on shared goals.
- 8.5 In line with the Services agreed role attend and participate in school meetings relating to the child and their educational goals as appropriate.
- 8.6 Support the child with the completion of any tasks related to school work.
- 8.7 Pass on important information to the school.
- 8.8 Work closely with Multi-disciplinary staff linked to the educational placement to ensure consistency across both settings.
- 8.9 Support the child to recognise and celebrate educational attainments.
- 8.10 Support the child and work closely with the school at times of transition.
- 8.11 Link closely with future day programme providers at school leaving age to promote and advocate on the young person's abilities, interests and aspirations.

9.0 Revision and Audit

This policy will be reviewed within one year of its operation and thereafter every 3 years unless significant changes in international best practice or legislation identifies the need to update the Policy at an earlier date.