



What you will learn about Responsible Adults and Safe Children

QRIS Indicator for Step 4 Strengthening Families and Communities: Program partners with families and/or agencies to support children's retention and success.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE: THE CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CAN BE DEVASTATING AND LIFELONG

Provide adult supervision and guidance for children's health and safety.

Ensure that children are provided with caregivers who interact in consistent and caring ways.

Be aware of risk factors and signs of child abuse and neglect, and the responsibilities for reporting incidences. (Early Learning eGuidelines, ELeG Essential Practice, Health and Safety)

What does this look like in practice?

- Staff receive ongoing training and program support in recognizing the signs of child sexual abuse.
- Child sexual abuse prevention and reporting policies are shared with parents upon enrollment.
- Staff recognize warning signs of child sexual abuse and know how to report concerns.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE: ALL ADULTS HAVE EVERYDAY RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO PREVENT CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Provide adult supervision and guidance for children's health and safety.

Ensure that children are provided with caregivers who interact in consistent and caring ways. (ELeG Essential Practice, Health and Safety)

What does this look like in practice?

- Program prevention policy includes eliminating or monitoring one adult/one child situations. All interactions are observable and interruptible.
- Staff talk openly to parents about minimizing opportunities for child sexual abuse in all areas of their children's lives.
- Staff receive training to understand typical childhood sexual development and behavior and are comfortable talking about it with children and their parents.
- Staff use correct terms for body parts with the children in their care.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS AND OPEN COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS AND CHILDREN, WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO PREVENTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Promote trust, security, and exploration through nurturing relationships and safe, consistent, and stimulating environments. (ELeG Essential Practice, Health and Safety)

What does this look like in practice?

- Staff learn and practice effective communication and listening skills.
- Programs offer private spaces for parents to consult with their children's teachers about any concerns they may have.
- Staff create an atmosphere of open communication and trust, and actively help children to trust, interact with, and seek assistance from adults.
- Staff provide information and support for parents who are making safety plans for their children and insisting on sexual abuse prevention policies in all areas of their lives.