

Child Protection at ELC

A REMINDER...

- Child Protection is the responsibility of ALL who work with parents and children.
- 18% of 11-17 year olds have experienced abuse or maltreatment throughout their childhood.
- Child abuse has a high social, emotional and economic cost - early intervention is vital. If you suspect abuse, you **MUST** report it.
- There are many kinds of abuse - sexual, physical, emotional, domestic, exploitation, exposure to parental drug abuse, female genital mutilation and more.
- You need to be aware of the subtle signs that abuse may be taking place - be vigilant. Changes in personality and behaviour, anxiety, aggression, poor relationships, running away could all be a sign that abuse may be occurring.
- When dealing with a disclosure - be calm and supportive, record the information in writing in the child's own words, don't guarantee confidentiality and report it immediately.
- Remember - you could be a vital link in keeping a child safe. Report any and all Child Protection issues as soon as you can.

