

ANONYMOUS 17018 - New submission from Early Years Strategy - Public Submissions

Our children whether babies, adolescents or teenagers that are for what ever reason taken by child protection, are at risk of harm, being left behind and not given the same opportunities as there own peers.

Carers whether it is formal or informal are not given the support appropriately and are not listened to when asked what our concerns are.

For example

A baby taken from birth that has had daily contact with parents. However in that 14 months has shown little to no parenting skills on a daily basis and blames everyone else for not putting in the effort. Than doing a 6 days parental assessment which was meant to be 10 days. The child in question Has been returned to parental care immediately, no slow reunification process, no unsupervised access which was meant to be the case plan, just ripped out of carers house and taken to bio mum's parents house, when they have had little to no contact with said child, and the department dropping off an extremely distressed unsettled child when bio mum wasn't even there. I find to be completely absurd.

The department of child protection do not care about the safety, health or well being of children or the bio mum or there family for that matter, or any child in this situation. If they did they would make sure that every child that is to return to parental care especially after 14 months of being in out of home care, with no issues and being safely care for and supported with there development. Child protection would make sure that the reunification process was done properly over a minimum of a 6 month period, making sure access is working with no issues and then moving to overnight stays and increasing as contact to make sure for the health, safety, and well-being of the child is being met, not just acceptable.

Child protection have not considered to possible implications on all parties involved and how such a move will impact on the child's health, safety, well-being.

This is just one example of the failures within a government Department that doesn't take responsibility when it stuffs up, constantly lies and covers up what is said and a child's life is put at risk.

All kinship carers, foster carers, and people involved should automatically be involved in the court process to make sure that a child under the age of 5 is heard, and make sure that the courts are aware of what is going on.

Children on a care by secretary order don't get given thw same opportunity either as there carer,/school have to seek permission from child protection for them to partake in camps excursions sports etc this also doesn't support a child or teen in any way.

Families under a social security payment should be not just given cheaper rego, cheaper medical etc. They should also be given cheaper food to make sure they can afford to provide health meals for there children.

It should also be made compulsory that after school care, childcare centres run 24/7 to give parents the option to have adequate care for there child if they have a job that is after hours, this will open up what career path, job a parent is able to apply for and obtain. Not all parents have the option of family or friends that can look after there children while at work.

Technology at school.

This should be done as school owns laptops and loans to students on a yearly basis, not all parents can afford the cost of living, education expenses and onto have to buy there child a specific laptop as that is what the school requires.

Uniforms

Yes they are needed however, they are not the end of the world if a student has a different colour pair of socks and does not interrupt how a child learns.

Childcare

Although our parents have the option of daycare or kinder many children fall behind before they even start school, as there is no set kinder program that a childcare centre has to use, childcare centres should be required to hire kindergarten teacher and have a set program not just a childcare worker. This way all children across board will be given the same opportunities to play, learn, grow and develop. Something many parents feel ashamed of due to having to work to provide for there children.

Dental

Every kinder, childcare should have available a dental program that teachers our children to look after there teeth, as well as a dentist coming out every 3 months, this will help improve heath and avoid unnecessary dental work on a child when they are older.

Thank you for your time.