

Reflection

As I reflect on my safeguarding knowledge after partaking in this assignment, I acknowledge that the 5 R's: Recognise, Respond, Report, Record, Refer are key steps in a process for safeguarding the individuals in your care. These steps ensure a structured and consistent approach is followed by everyone. Recognising is having the relevant knowledge and training to be able to notice the signs and symptoms of abuse or harm. Responding in an appropriate way once a concern is recognised, this means acting calmly, not making promises you cannot keep, and reassuring the individual. Next is report; after responding it is important to report the concern to a designated safeguarding lead or appropriate agency. Record an accurate detailed record using only factual information with the time, date and actions taken. Always ensure documents are stored securely. Lastly is refer; if the concern meets the guidelines for further action, it must be referred. The National Safeguarding Procedures for Wales (2020) provides a framework for making referrals and outlines the criteria for taking concerns further. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and it is of utmost importance that everyone knows that.

Before this assignment I had sufficient knowledge of the importance of safeguarding children, I have completed a couple safeguarding courses and am up to date. In my setting I am aware of who my safeguarding lead and deputy are. Along with the safeguarding Wales app that I have on my phone if ever needed, our setting also has our own Padlet which is filled with all the information for safeguarding and the procedures and policies and how to implement this into practice. (Rachael's Playhouse 2025). I understand that safeguarding is also about creating a safe environment where the children feel welcome, loved and safe. Following the guidance from the All Wales Child Protection Procedures, I understand that I must always act quickly and appropriately ensuring to never ignore a concern.

From this module I now feel more confident when talking about the topic safeguarding and having to work in a group to present a child protection conference has allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of multi-agency work and how each agency works. From my opinion this module is very beneficial to practitioners and expanding their knowledge of safeguarding in order to influence their practice in settings and schools which is fundamental to the children in their care alongside their family/carers. By following all the relevant steps and procedures ensures the children are at the centre of their care. As a professional it is important to remain vigilant, informed and proactive in applying the principles and procedures as this ensures everyone is treated fairly and safeguarded effectively. Thank you for listening.

References

National Safeguarding Procedures for Wales. (2020). Available: <https://www.safeguarding.wales/en/> Accessed: 6th July 2025.

Rachael's Playhouse. (2025). Available; <https://m.facebook.com/Rachael'sPlayhouse/> Accessed: 6th July 2025.

Wales Safeguarding Procedures. (2019). Welsh Government. Available: <https://www.safeguarding.wales/en/> Accessed: 6th July 2025.