

The Parenting Network

Influencing Policy, Practice and Learning

August 2017

Principles

Support for parents should include:

- A focus on prevention and early intervention
- Addressing parenting at all stages of the child's development including from pregnancy to birth
- All aspects of parenting including child transitions to young adulthood
- Parenting of children who live in different contexts, circumstances and family types
- An understanding and widespread recognition that parenting supports should be seen as normal
- An evidence based / evidence informed / outcomes approach consistent with current Government and State Agency policies and policy development in the jurisdictions of Ireland and Northern Ireland
- High quality universal services for all and contributions to ongoing development of quality indicators and standards
- Targeting of resources for those requiring additional supports
- Social capital returns through prevention, early intervention and supporting parents
- Ethical approaches in shared learning and building on knowledge of outcomes, achievements and failures
- Hearing the voice of parents and responding to their needs in an appropriate, respectful and meaningful way

