

1. Does the overall content of the draft Common Core provide a clear explanation, which will inform employers and workers of the basic Skills Knowledge and Understanding the workforce needs?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | | No | |
|--|--|----|--|
| <p>Comments</p> <p>The National Childminding Association (NCMA) is the only national charity and membership organisation that represents home-based childcare in England and Wales, delivered by registered childminders and nannies, with approximately 47,000 members. We promote quality home-based childcare so that children, families and communities can benefit from the best in childcare and education.</p> <p>Working in partnership with Government, CSSIW, local authorities, integrated children's centres, community focused schools and other childcare organisations, we aim to ensure that every registered childminder has access to services, training, information and support to enable them to provide a professional service. NCMA offers to work with all local authorities across Wales.</p> <p>NCMA's mission statement is <i>"to ensure that families in every community have access to high quality, home-based childcare, play, learning and family support so they can help their children reach their full potential."</i></p> <p>NCMA believes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children thrive in home-based childcare – emotionally, physically and socially. • Children's needs are paramount. Their needs, rights, wellbeing and development should come first. • Childcare must be high quality. By this we mean it should provide a positive play and learning experience for every child and their family. <p>NCMA believes that the Common Core will help to establish a greater shared language and understanding across different parts of the workforce thus improving practice. Overall the draft document of the Common Core is concise and easy to follow.</p> <p>NCMA recommends that the final document provide a clear definition of the age of a child and a young person.</p> | | | |

2. Do you broadly agree with the content of the draft document?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | | No | |
|--|--|----|--|
| <p>Comments</p> <p>NCMA believes that the Common Core of Skills Knowledge and Understanding for the Children and Young People's Workforce in Wales is a document which aims to reflect a common set of values rooted in commitment to realisation of children's rights as set out in the UNCRC.</p> <p>In basing the seven core aims on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), NCMA agrees that the understanding of and commitment to Children and Young People's rights should be the foundation for practice across all sectors and services.</p> <p>NCMA believes that the Common Core needs to form part of any induction or basic training for practitioners.</p> | | | |

3. Does the document accurately reflect the Policy issues in Wales

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | | No | |
|--|--|----|--|
| <p>Comments</p> <p>NCMA agrees that the Common Core reflects most of the Policy issues in Wales.</p> | | | |

4. Is there anything in the draft Section 1: **Effective Communication And Engagement** that you think is wrong, misleading or unclear?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | No |
|---|----|
| Comments | |
| <p>NCMA has some concerns regarding the section on Confidentiality and Ethics, particularly skill 1k10. In relation to 1k10, this would only be discussed if a child or young person makes a disclosure or if abuse is suspected.</p> <p>NCMA also has some reservations with regards to skill 1k5. The Common Assessment Framework for Children and Young People can only be carried out after sufficient access to training, which is not available in all local authority areas.</p> | |

5. Is there anything in the draft Section 2: **Child And Young Person Development** that you think is wrong, misleading or unclear?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | No |
|---|----|
| Comments | |
| <p>NCMA believes that unless adequate training is provided there may be a gap in recognising which professionals may need to be involved and at which stage (2k12).</p> | |

6. Is there anything in the draft Section 3: ***Safeguarding And Promoting The Welfare Of The Child*** that you think is wrong, misleading or unclear?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|--|
| Yes | | No | |
| <p>Comments</p> <p>NCMA currently provides all childminders with the telephone number for NCMA's Information Line. This number, provided in NCMA Members' Handbook, provides help and support with all areas of childminding, including allegations of child abuse and more. NCMA agrees that all employers and organisations need to "<i>appreciate the potential effect of witnessing upsetting situations and know how to get support</i>" (skill 3k11).</p> | | | |

7. Is there anything in the draft Section 4: ***Supporting Transitions*** that you think is wrong, misleading or unclear?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| | | | |
|---|--|-----------|--|
| Yes | | No | |
| <p>Comments</p> <p>NCMA believes that it is imperative to share information amongst practitioners. However organisations are often very protective of information they gather or hold, and are not very good at sharing information with other partners, especially when a child or young person moves from one setting to another. Data protection issues and confidentiality can also play a part in organisations being reluctant to share information with other organisations.</p> | | | |

8. Is there anything in the draft Section 5: **Multi-Agency And Partnership Working** that you think is wrong, misleading or unclear?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | | No | |
|---|--|----|--|
| <p>Comments</p> <p>Please see our response to 7</p> | | | |

9. Is there anything in the draft Section 6: **Sharing Information** that you think is wrong, misleading or unclear?

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | | No | |
|------------------------------------|--|----|--|
| <p>Comments</p> <p>No comments</p> | | | |

9. Does the format of the draft Common Core set out a clear framework for its application across all the sectors who work with children in Wales.

Please tick the appropriate box and add any comments

| Yes | | No | |
|--|--|----|--|
| <p>Comments</p> <p>NCMA believes that the format of the draft Common Core sets out a clear framework and would allow all practitioners to sing from the same hymnbook. It is crucial that if the Common Core is to be successful it needs to be adopted across the whole sector. Fundraising implications should also not be underestimated in creating a Common Core for all practitioners to follow.</p> | | | |

Completing this questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to complete this document, your comments are appreciated.

You will notice that the questions are very specific regarding the *content* of the Common Core, and that at this time the content itself contains little reference to legislation and policy. This is because the document is designed to try to have relevance to all those who work with children, so there is little direct reference to individual roles, tasks and professions, or to legislative and policy documents. In this way we hope that the individual workforces involved will be able to use the Common Core in it's general form, making it specific to their own roles and responsibilities.

The final document will contain a full appendix of UK and Wales specific legislation and policy