

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

THE 6Cs



Be **CHILD** focused

Always be **CURIOUS**

COMMUNICATE well

Know your **CONTEXT**

Be **CLEAR** about the child's status

Be **CIVIL** to others

<https://www.portsmouthscp.org.uk/>

Be **CHILD** focused

Ask yourself what is it like for this child living in this house/family? What is the 'lived experience' of this child?

Always be **CURIOUS**

In challenging times when everyone is trying to do more with less. If we are overwhelmed or weary it is often our curiosity that waivers. Take action: talk with your supervisor or a colleague. If we lack curiosity children are less safe.

COMMUNICATE well

Effective communication helps keep children safe. Ensure your communication with your safeguarding lead, with colleagues, with families, and with children is effective. Poor communication within and between agencies is a red flag/danger zone.

Know your **CONTEXT**

Adhere to, and regularly review, the safeguarding policies and procedures for your setting.

Be **CLEAR** about the child's status

Local reviews have highlighted how not knowing the status of a child has resulted in avoidable mistakes with extremely serious consequences. Be clear: is this child **already** receiving Early Help, are they a Child in Need or on a child protection plan? Ensure there is clear and timely communication with those already involved.

Be **CIVIL** to others

[Research](#) demonstrates that incivility hinders communication. Civility contributes to more timely and effective decision making.