

Parenikind

Bringing together home & school

What you can expect from educators



A guide for parents and guardians

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg
This document is also available in Welsh

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Introduction

When you send your children to school or college, you put your trust in the staff who work there to keep them safe.

In Wales, anybody working as a teacher or learning support worker in a school or further education setting, qualified youth/youth support worker, or a work-based learning practitioner must be registered with the Education Workforce Council (EWC). That's currently more than 85,000 individuals.

Everyone registered is expected to follow the EWC Code of Professional Conduct and Practice.

These requirements are intended to help protect, not just learners and young people, but you as parents and guardians too.

The purpose of this document is to tell you about the requirements upon a registered practitioner and explain what your rights are as a parent/guardian if a registrant breaches the Code.



Hayden Llewellyn Chief Executive, Education Workforce Council (EWC)



Jason Elsom Chief Executive, Parentkind

About the EWC

The Education Workforce Council (EWC) is the independent, professional regulator for the education workforce in Wales.

Our core function is to regulate in the public interest. To do this, we first maintain a Register of Education Practitioners eligible to practise in schools, further education, youth work, and work-based learning.

Secondly, we publish a Code of Professional Conduct and Practice which sets out the standards expected of those registered. Thirdly, we investigate and hear allegations of unacceptable professional conduct, serious professional incompetence, and/or relevant criminal offences.

We do this to protect learners, young people, parents/guardians, and the public.

In addition to our regulatory work, we also:

- support registrants to be able to deliver the highest professional standards by providing useful information, resources, and services designed to offer guidance and direction
- seek out opportunities to shape and influence educational policy in Wales
- promote careers in education in Wales through the <u>Educators Wales website</u> and advocacy service

For further information about our role, please visit the EWC website.



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About Parentkind

As a national federated charity, Parentkind gives those with a parenting role a voice in education.



We invest substantial resources in representing parent views on their child's learning to local, regional, and national governments and agencies. Evidence tells us that parental participation in education benefits all children in all schools and society as a whole.

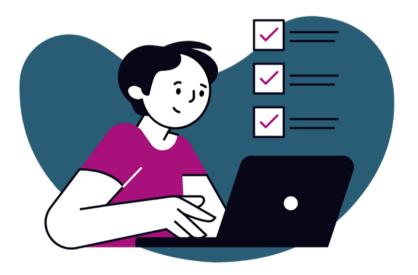
Parentkind's network of 12,500 Parent Teacher Associations mobilises over 100,000 volunteer fundraisers to raise in excess of £120million annually to fund vital equipment and services for our schools. This outstanding effort raises an amount comparable to leading UK charities.

For further information please <u>visit the Parentkind website</u>.

What is registration?

Being registered with the EWC means that those working with your children have the right skills and knowledge to practise safely and effectively, and that their suitability to be registered has been assessed by us.

You can check that the staff working with your children are registered using your public access to the <u>Register of Education Practitioners</u>. There, you can also see any individuals who have disciplinary orders currently imposed upon them.



What is the Code of Professional Conduct and Practice?

Once registered with us, registrants commit to following our Code of Professional Conduct and Practice (the Code). The Code sets out the standards expected of a registrant, both in and out of work. The Code is also for learners, young people, parents/guardians, and the public to understand what behaviours they can expect from a registered person.

Codes of conduct and practice are common across professions including nurses, doctors, dentists, and solicitors.

In following the EWC Code, registrants commit to upholding five key principles:

- 1. Personal and Professional Responsibility
- 2. Professional Integrity
- 3. Collaborative Working
- 4. Professional Knowledge and Understanding
- 5. Professional Learning

We have lots of support on offer which helps people to use and understand the Code. This includes free group training and awareness raising sessions, and good practice guides offering helpful hints and tips. If you are interested in arranging a session for your group or organisation, contact information@ewc.wales.

You can read the EWC Code of Professional Conduct and Practice by visiting www.ewc.wales/EWCcode.

Raising concerns with the EWC

Most of the referrals we receive come from employers and involve allegations of unacceptable professional conduct, serious professional incompetence, and/or a conviction of a relevant offence. As a parent/guardian, you can also raise a concern with us about one of our registrants if you think they have breached the Code.

If you decide to raise a concern, we strongly suggest you read our guidance first as there are certain things you need to have done before contacting us.

The guidance is available by visiting www.ewc.wales/whatisFTP.



Contact us

The Code, along with a series of good practice guides designed to support the implementation of the Code, are available on the <u>EWC website</u>.

For further information, please contact us at:

Telephone: 029 2046 0099

E-mail: fitnesstopractise@ewc.wales