

CHILD PROTECTION

The Cork College of Commerce works to ensure that children are protected while they are with staff and fellow students in this organisation. We do this by:

- Giving parents, children and College staff information about what we do and what they can expect from us.
- Making sure that our staff are carefully recruited, trained and supervised.
- Advising parents and children on how to voice their concerns or complain if there is anything they are not happy about.
- Encouraging staff to view children, who are students at the College, as needing additional supports.

It is also important for the protection of all concerned that staff, children and their parents have guidelines on what is expected, and what is not accepted, with respect to their behaviour:

- Staff members should be sensitive to and mindful of the risks involved in participating in contact sports or other physical activities.
- Staff members should never physically punish or be in any way verbally abusive to a student, nor should they use inappropriate language.
- Staff members should be sensitive to the possibility of:
 - Favouritism
 - Becoming over involved
 - Spending a great deal of time with any one student.
- Students should be encouraged to report cases of child protection issues to either the designated person, or a teacher of their choice. Complaints must be brought to the attention of management.
- It is not recommended that staff members give lifts in their cars to individual children.

The Cork Education and Training Board has adopted a: Code of practice for CETB staff in their relationships with the Scheme's learners.

Designated Person

- The College has a designated person for all dealings with health boards, Gardaí and other parties re allegations/concerns about child protection.
- The designated person for the College is Helen Ryan (Principal).
- The designated person is a resource person for staff who have child protection concerns and for students who need to make a complaint.
- The designated person shall notify the Board of Management immediately a report is made to the HSE.