

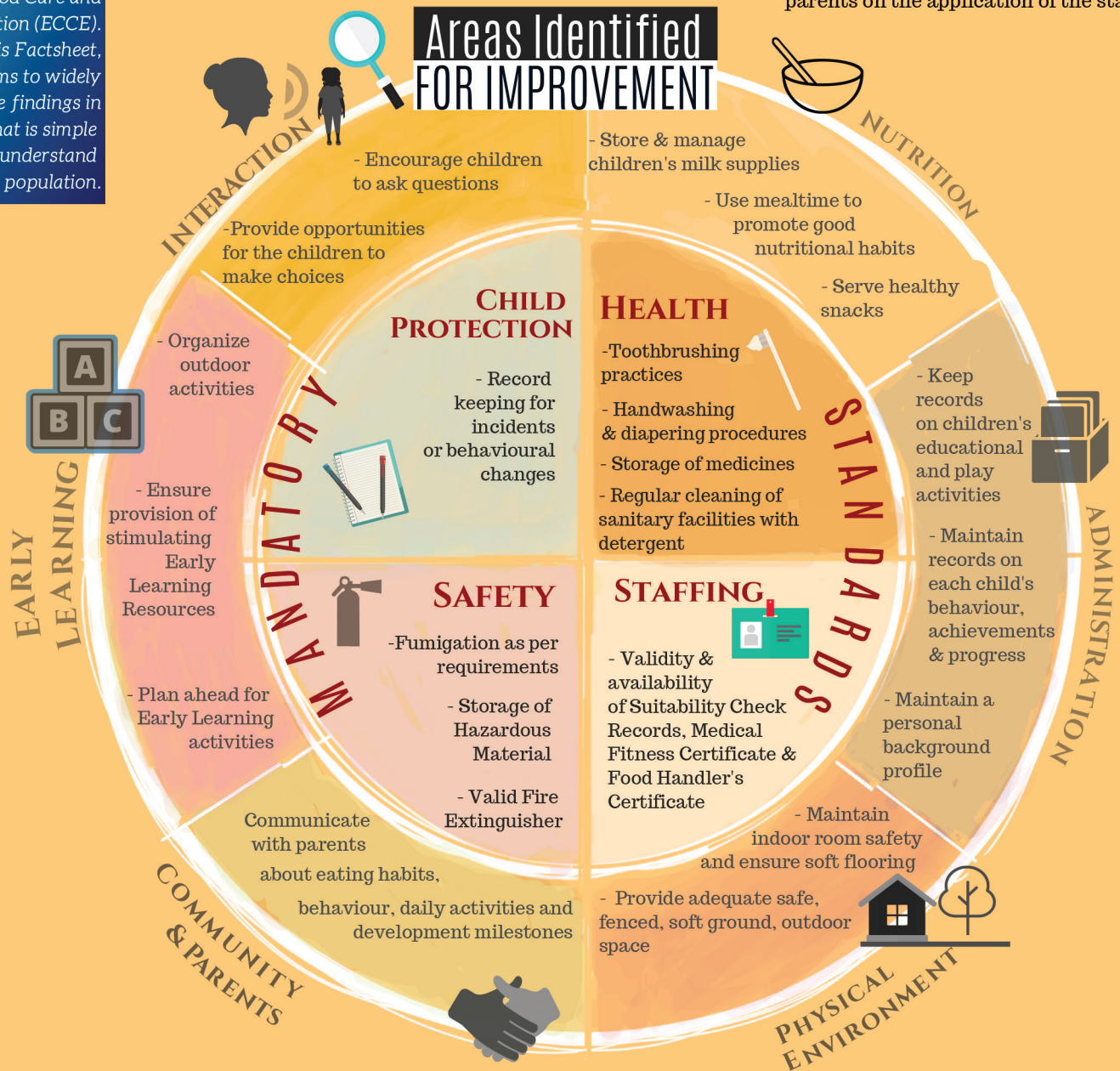


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MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF The National Standards for Childminding Services

Early Years Factsheet is an initiative of the Institute of Early Childhood Development (IECD) that presents a snapshot of the research carried out in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). Through this Factsheet, IECD aims to widely disseminate the findings in a manner that is simple and easy to understand for the general population.

The Institute of Early Childhood Development (IECD) conducted a study to evaluate the implementation of the ten core National Standards for Childminding Services. The study also aimed to determine the challenges that childminders faced in implementing the standards, to gauge the knowledge of Childminders about the standards and to gather the views of parents on the application of the standards..





COMMUNICATION

- Valuing opinions
- Giving advice
- Involvement
- Respect



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- State of the building
- Cleanliness
- Level of safety inside and outside
- Necessary equipment
- Appropriate stimulation



CARE & EARLY LEARNING

The Childminding establishment to give not only necessary care but also early learning experiences and required help and support



PROTECTION

Protect children from harm, address child's concerns, help if child is ill and discuss child behaviour



INDIVIDUALIZATION

Meeting individual children's needs and support the child to achieve their potential



RELATIONSHIP

Be approachable and welcoming

369

Parents



Knowledge

1 in 3 completed Secondary Education



1 in 4 completed Post-Secondary



None have a University Degree



FORMAL EDUCATION

KNOWLEDGE OF STANDARDS

Childminders' Knowledge of Standards on Health, Nutrition, Early Learning & Interaction



KNOWLEDGE GAPS

E.g. Learning by doing, questioning techniques, knowledge about Child Development, use of television to keep children quiet and time spent indoors

RECOMMENDATION
Childminders may need more training & Professional Development



2 out of 3

Childminders are likely to continue service in the foreseeable future

RETENTION

Childminders attach great value to being appreciated for the service they provide to parents and communities

MOTIVATION

RECOMMENDATION
Advocacy for recognition of childminders' service as a valuable contribution to the community

PARENTS' EXPECTATIONS OF SERVICE QUALITY
ASPECTS OF THE CHILDMINDING SERVICE
Workforce



Community & Parent Relationships

Childminders and Parents value each other and Childminders have useful linkages with community organizations, services and facilities.

However, the following areas for improvement were identified:

CHILDMINDERS

- Encourage parents to spend time inside the establishment
- Use Parents' observations for planning

PARENTS

- Timely Payments
- Sending in children when they are unwell
- Timekeeping
- Provision of unhealthy snacks

Operational Costs



All Registered Childminders benefit from Government subsidies and assistance with acquisition of resources

SUBSIDY



75% of all Registered Childminding establishments are financially sustainable



PROFIT & LOSS

- Average monthly operational cost is SR 12,080
- Operating costs are considerably higher on the islands
- Childminding fees vary considerably
- Monthly income depends on number of children enrolled

RECOMMENDATIONS

Childminders' capacity for financial planning may need to be developed and increased financial assistance may need to be considered

Through this study, baseline information has been gathered regarding the implementation of standards in childminding services. Tools have been developed to rigorously monitor the level of compliance to the standards. The findings will be used to further enhance the quality of childminding services in Seychelles.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & APPRECIATION

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Registered Childminders, Childminding Staff and Parents

IECD Management and Staff