



Association of Childhood Professionals
The Professional Body Representing Practitioners in
Early Years and School Age Care & Education

Statement: Issued by the Association of Childhood Professionals
Wednesday May 29, 2013.

RTE Prime Time programme response

The Association of Childhood Professionals has voiced its concern at the findings of the RTE Prime Time investigation into practices at crèches.

The Association said the programme showed repeat instances of practices that are not acceptable for the childhood sector.

In response the Association of Childhood Professionals (ACP) called on the Government to work together with childhood professionals to ensure high quality provision in the childhood sector and to ensure the implementation of national standards.

In particular, the Association said key steps to progress include:

- The Early Childhood Care and Education sector Workforce Development Plan (2010) needs to be developed into a working plan and adequately resourced and implemented.
- The Síolta National Quality Framework (2006) and the Aistear Early Childhood Curriculum Framework (2009) need to be implemented
- The childcare inspection system needs to be revised and an early years specialist needs to be included on the inspection team.

All ACP members sign up to the ethical framework to support a high quality of professional practice.

ACP Chairperson Marian Quinn said: "The development of the childhood sector requires quality standards for training, professional development and inspection. It also requires commensurate pay for workers and Government commitment to ongoing development based upon evidence and best practice."

Further Information

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