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GROWING UP IN IRELAND – national study of children
Strictly Confidential – CENTRE-BASED CARE

Group

Household

PLEASE READ THIS FIRST

This questionnaire should be accompanied by an information pack. It is important that you read this information before filling out the questionnaire. If you have any questions, please ring 01-8632000 and ask for the Growing Up in Ireland team.

IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE WITH AN INTERVIEWER OVER THE PHONE, PLEASE CALL (01) 8632000 DURING OFFICE HOURS

First of all, we would like to ask you some things about the study child in particular.

Q1. How long has the study child been attending this centre? ___ years ___ months ___ weeks

Q2. How many hours per week does the study child attend the centre? ___ hours

Q3. How many days per week does the study child attend the centre? ___ days

Q4. Compared with other children, do you think this child is . . . ?

Much easier to get on with than average ₁ More difficult to get on with than average ₄
Easier to get on with than average ₂ Much more difficult to get on with than average ... ₅
About average ₃

Q5. Please think about your relationship with the study child. How easy or difficult do you find getting on with the child?

Very easy Somewhat easy Neither easy nor difficult Somewhat difficult Very difficult
₁ ₂ ₃ ₄ ₅

We would also like some general information about the care centre.

Q6. Are you registered with the Health Service Executive?

Yes ₁ No ₂ Not sure ₃

Q7. On a typical day, how many children are in the centre (excluding study child)? _____ no. of children

Q8. What ages are these children? (Please indicate the number of children in these age categories)

0 – 11 months ₁ 7-9 years..... ₄
1- 3 years ₂ 10 - 12 years ₅
4-6 years ₃ 12 years and over ₆

Q9. If there is more than 5 years between the ages of the oldest and youngest child, are the younger children segregated from the older?

Yes ₁ No ₂ Sometimes ₃

Q10. How many children in the centre (excluding the study child) are from a non-English speaking family background? _____ children

Q11. How many children in the centre (excluding the study child) have a mental or physical disability?
_____ children

Q12. How many of the following types of toys are there available to the child in the centre?

a. Cuddly toys or dolls _____ (Enter number of toys) b. Activity type toys _____ (number)

Q13. When you are minding the Study Child how many children’s books are available to the Study Child to look at / to be read from etc? Do you estimate...

None ₁ 21-30 ₄
Less than 10..... ₂ More than 30..... ₅
Between 10 and 20 ₃

Q14. On average, how many hours per day does the child spend watching TV or DVD’s while in your care? _____ hrs

Q15. In a typical day, how long would the child spend asleep while in your care? ____ hours

Q16. On a typical day, how often would you get the chance to talk to the child on a one-to-one basis?

Almost never 1 Sometimes 2 Often 3 Always 4

Q17. How many staff (whole-time equivalents) are employed in the centre to look after the children (do not include administrative or maintenance staff, etc)? _____ no. of staff

Q18. How many of these staff has a formal childcare qualification? _____ no. of staff

Q19. How many of these child care staff have English (or Irish) as their first language? _____ no. of staff

Q20. Are parents allowed to leave sick children into the centre?

Never..... 1 Rarely 2 Frequently 3 Always..... 4

Finally, we would like to know some things about you.

Q21. Which of the following best describes your role in this child care centre?

- a. Director 1
- b. Full-time employee..... 2
- c. Part-time employee 3
- d. Other (please specify) 4

Q22. What is your date of birth? (DD/MM/YYYY) _____ (day) _____ (mth) _____ (yr)

Q23. Are you? Male 1 Female..... 2

Q24. What is your nationality? _____

Q25. Which of the following best describes the type of care your centre provides?

- Work-based crèche 1
- Other crèche / nursery 2
- Montessori..... 3
- Playschool or Preschool 4
- Naoinra 5
- Other(please specify)..... 6

Q26. Do you have any specific qualification in childcare excluding your experience of raising your own children?

- No formal childcare qualification 1
- FETAC award (levels 4,5 or 6) 2
- HETAC or Third Level qualification from University, Inst of Tech, St Nicholas Montessori College etc. 3
- A childcare award from outside Ireland 4
- Other related course(s) (e.g. teaching, nursing etc) please specify 5

Q27. Please indicate the subject area in which the qualification was obtained:

- Childcare 1
- National school teaching 2
- Other education 3
- Child psychology/development 4
- Special needs assistance 5
- Speech and language therapy 6
- Nursing 7
- Other (please specify) 8

Q28. When did you receive this qualification? Year: _____

Q29. Have you undertaken any other training relevant to caring for children? Tick all that apply.

- Child psychology 1
- Sign language 2
- First aid 3
- Nutrition/Diet 4
- Other (please specify) 5

Q30. Is caring for children your main occupation? Yes 1 No 2

Q31. If no, please describe your main occupation as fully as possible

Q32. How long have you regularly worked 10 or more hours per week in a childcare situation? ____ years ____ mths

Q33. How long have you worked in this particular care centre? _____ years _____ months

Q34. Overall, are you happy working in childcare?

Strongly Agree 1 Agree 2 Neutral 3 Disagree 4 Strongly Disagree 5

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING PART IN THIS PROJECT.
PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE IN THE ENCLOSED PRE-PAID ENVELOPE.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES ABOUT THIS PROJECT PLEASE PHONE
THE GROWING UP IN IRELAND TEAM AT 01-8632000