



## 2022 CHAPTER 18

### PART 2

#### Children order amendments

##### **Corporate parenting principles**

**123.** After Article 26 of the Children Order (general duty of authority) insert—

##### **“Corporate parenting principles**

**26A.—(1)** An authority must, in carrying out functions in relation to persons to whom this Article applies, have regard to the need—

- (a) to act in their best interests, and promote their well-being;
- (b) to encourage them to express their views, wishes and feelings;
- (c) to take into account their views, wishes and feelings;
- (d) to help them gain access to, and make the best use of, services provided by the authority and any relevant partner;
- (e) to promote high aspirations, and seek to secure the best outcomes, for them;
- (f) for them to be safe, and for stability in their home lives, relationships and education or work; and
- (g) to prepare them for adulthood and independent living.

(2) This Article applies to—

- (a) children who are looked after by an authority;
- (b) relevant children within the meaning given by Article 34B(2); and

- (c) persons aged under 25 (or such other age as may be prescribed) who are former relevant children within the meaning given by Article 34D(1).
- (3) In this Article—
  - “relevant partner” means—
    - (a) children’s authority within the meaning given by section 9 of the Children’s Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015;
    - (b) other children’s service provider within the meaning given by section 9 of the Children’s Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015;
  - “well-being” has the meaning given by section 1 of the Children’s Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.
- (4) An authority must have regard to any guidance given by the Department as to the performance of the duty under paragraph (1).”.