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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2003 No. 367**

**The Voluntary Adoption Agencies and the Adoption Agencies (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2003**

**PART III**

**CONDUCT OF AGENCIES**

**Staff disciplinary procedure**

**16.**—(1) The registered provider and the manager shall operate a disciplinary procedure which, in particular—

- (a) provides for the suspension of an employee where necessary in the interests of the safety or welfare of children placed for adoption by the agency;
  - (b) provides that the failure on the part of an employee to report, to an appropriate person, an incident of abuse, or suspected abuse of a child placed for adoption by the agency is a ground on which disciplinary proceedings may be instituted.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(b), an appropriate person is—
- (a) the registered provider, the manager, or in relation to any person working at any branch of the agency, the branch manager;
  - (b) an officer of the registration authority;
  - (c) a police officer;
  - (d) an officer of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children;
  - (e) an officer of a local authority in whose area the agency or (as the case may be) branch is situated; or
  - (f) an officer of a local authority in whose area the child is placed for adoption.