

CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Castleknock Community Centre

1. OUR PURPOSE, SERVICE AND PRINCIPALS OF SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

The aim of Castleknock Community Centre is “to provide a positive focal point for the Community of Laurel Lodge and to strive to meet the needs of the diverse local community in an inclusive way through the provision of space which supports the promotion of participation in sport, leisure, educational and recreational activities”

Our Safeguarding Statement is designed to ensure up to date “best practice” in all aspects of safeguarding children in the creation and maintenance of a safe environment.

Our service is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can par-take in activities provided by the Centre or by tenants of the Centre.

Our service believes that the welfare of the children attending our Centre is paramount. We are committed to child centered practice in all our work with children.

We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our Centre, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to and heard.

The Castleknock Community Centre has assigned the following mandated persons for the company -

- ❖ **JAMES O’ REILLY** as the **CHILD SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (Designated Liaison Person)**.
- ❖ **CATHERINE COADY** as the **Deputy CHILD SAFEGUARDING OFFICER (Deputy Designated Liaison Person)**.

2. PROCEDURE

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the *Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)*, and Tusla’s *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our centre;
 - see Child Safeguarding Policy.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
 - see Recruitment Policy and Volunteer Policy.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
 - see Child Safeguarding Policy.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
 - see Child Protection Policy.
- Procedure for appointing a Child Safety Officer (Designated Liaison Person/DLP) and a Deputy DLP;
 - Board of Management.

All procedures/policies listed above are available upon request.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed **annually** or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For queries, please contact James O’Reilly, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

Contact Details: email castleknockcommunitycentre@gmail.com or mobile 0857123287

CHILD SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

Castleknock Community Centre

We have carried out a risk assessment of any potential for harm to a child while using the Community Centre.

Below is a list of the areas of risks identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of 'harm' as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk. In undertaking this risk assessment, the Board of	Risk Identified	Risk Level	Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk
	Training of Castleknock Community Centre personnel in Child Safeguarding matters.	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Child Safeguarding Statement made available to all staff and on display in the foyer. ▪ DLP and DDLP to attend online training. ▪ All staff to complete Tusla training module. ▪ Centre Manager retains all records of staff, volunteer and BOM training – kept in 'Child Safeguarding' file in the office.
	Toilet areas.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff Toilet on premises. ▪ Regular cleaning of toilet areas throughout the day – hourly. ▪ CCTV in operation in foyer – to include toilet entrance.
	Recruitment of new staff and volunteers	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Child Safeguarding Statement /Policy available to all staff and relevant volunteers. ▪ All staff will complete Tusla Child Safeguarding training every 3 years and provide certificate to Centre Manager to prove training has taken place.
	Students participating in Work experience.	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work Experience Policy in place. ▪ Child Safeguarding Statement and Policy in place.
	Volunteers / Parent Helpers	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervised by staff in open areas. ▪ Garda vetting procedures in place where appropriate.
	Administration of First Aid / Medicine	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two Trained First Aiders on staff. ▪ Training provided annually for staff members. ▪ First Aid kits available. ▪ Defibrillator available beside coffee shop.
Delivery and collection of children participating in classes.	Med.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All relevant tenants advised of necessity of 'duty of care' to all their participating children in respect of the child being delivered to and collected from the Centre. ▪ Children to be delivered/collected in person by their parent/guardian/responsible adult. 	

Management has endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to this community centre and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified.

While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, the community centre has in place the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.