

Kids at Play Waterford Policies and Procedures

Child Safeguarding Statement

Last Review Date 31/3/2022
2020
Updated 6/4/2022

Policy No. 5

Issued:

Last Review and update 30/08/22



Kids at Play Waterford
14 Carn Glas Court
Gracedieu
Waterford City

Child Safeguarding Statement

Kids at Play Waterford is play and social skills group for children with additional needs aged 4-15 years.

The Management Structure is as follows:

- Managing Director
- Assistant Manager
- Supervisor
- Support workers

Kids at Play Waterford is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can play, learn, and develop. We believe that the welfare of the children attending our service is paramount. We are committed to child led approach in all our work with children. We are committed to upholding the rights of every child who attends our skills group, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm (as defined in the CFA 2015), listened to, and heard.

Our policy and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and are underpinned by Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the TUSLA Children First - Child Safeguarding Guide 2017, and the Children First Act 2015.

Our policy declaration applies to all paid staff, volunteers and students on work placement within our organisation. All staff, volunteers, work-placement students and anyone with direct access to the children in our care, must sign up to and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance

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encompassed by this policy declaration and our child safeguarding policy and accompanying procedures.

We will review our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures every 2 years or sooner, if necessary, due to any change in circumstance, changes in legislation or in line with any amendments to national policy.

The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL)

The Manager (Aoife Lynch) of the centre is the DLP for Child Protection and the Assistant Manager (Anna Power) of the centre is the DDL.

Risk Assessment

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Senior Management Team of Kids at Play Waterford has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) to a child while attending the skills group or participating in its activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and our procedures for managing those risks is summarised below:

| Risk Identified | Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk |
|--|---|
| Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of a child from online abuse through social media or internet access | Policy- The Taking and Sharing of Photos of Children Policy- Data Protection Policy- Child Protection |
| Risk of harm (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer | Policy- Garda Vetting Policy- Data Protection Policy- Child Protection Policy- Complaints Supervisory Procedures and Structures in place, including peer monitoring |
| Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of a child by a visitor to the service | Policy- Arrivals and Collection Policy- Data Protection Supervisory Procedures and Structures in place |

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|---|--|
| Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of bullying of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer | Policy- Child Protection Policy-Promotion of Positive Behaviour |
| Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of a child from unauthorised photography | Policy-The Taking and sharing of Photos of Children |
| Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) to a child while on an organised outing/trip by a member of staff/volunteer/stranger/peer | Policy- After-school Children Policy- Garda Vetting |

Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

As required by the Children First Act, 2015, Children First National Guidance for Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the following safeguarding policies/procedures/measures are in place:

- Procedures to maintain a list of mandated persons under the Children First Act, 2015
- A Relevant Person has been appointed
- A Designated Liaison Person and Deputy have been appointed
- Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedures
- Confidentiality Policy
- Procedure for Managing Child Protection Records
- Recruitment Policy
- Garda Vetting Policy
- Code of Behaviour for Working with Children
- Induction Policy (which includes procedures to inform new staff about the Child Safeguarding Statement and accompanying safeguarding policies and procedures)

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- All staff have completed the Tusla eLearning module – Introduction to Children First.
- Staff have access to regular Supervision and Support in line with the service policy.
- Complaints Policy
- Policy for Managing Accidents and Incidents
- Social Media Management Policy
- Policy for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse or Neglect Against Employees

Implementation and Review

- We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Kids at Play Waterford is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) while availing of our service.
- This Statement will be reviewed every 2 years or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.
- This statement has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with Kids at Play Waterford. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to TUSLA if requested.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aoife Lynch", is written over a grey rectangular background.

Date 1/11/2020

Aoife Lynch

Managing Director Kids at Play Waterford

kidsatplaywaterford@gmail.com

For further information on this Statement, contact Relevant Person:

Anna Power

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086-1568155

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This policy has been sent by email to all parents/guardians of children enrolled in Kids at Play Waterford. It is available on site also and will be communicated to all parents, guardians and school age children.