



Child Safeguarding Statement

Services we provide

- Community Care,
- First Aid and Ambulance Services
- Nursing Services,
- Cadets - Youth programmes from 10 to 16 years. Cadet units provide first aid training, achievement programmes and fun activities through weekly meetings. We also provide days out and overnight trips away for our young people.
- Training in Pre-hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) approved courses,

Principles to safeguard children from harm.

- The safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility.
- The best interests of the child should be paramount.
- Parents have a right to respect and should be involved in matters that concern their child
- We are committed to upholding the rights of all children, including the right to be kept safe and protected from harm.
- We are committed to listening to the voice of the child and ensuring they are consulted in matters that may affect them.
- Ensure policies and procedures are in place to ensure children are safe when availing of our services.

Risk Assessment

	Risks identified	Procedures in place to manage risk identified
1.	Risk of harm to a child from a volunteer / staff member	Recruitment procedure including National Vetting policy Reporting procedures Mandatory training of all volunteers and staff – Child Protection Awareness Programme Code of Behaviour
2.	Risk of harm of a child by a visitor/contractor in the service;	Supervision by vetted and trained youth leaders as per organisation's Safeguarding Policy Guidance re Cadets on Duty
3.	Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of a child on outings by a member of staff/volunteer/peer;	Code of Behaviour Ratios of trained leaders providing supervision to children as per policy Working safely with children procedures
4.	Risk of harm of bullying of a child by a member of staff/volunteer/peer	Respect and Dignity Policy Anti-bullying training for youth leaders
5.	Risk of harm of a child from unauthorised photography	Social Media Policy Parental consent prior to publishing any photographs.
6.	Risk of harm of a child from online abuse through social media or internet access	Acceptable Usage Policy Social Media Policy Safeguarding policy
7.	Risk of harm to a child through an online service during Covid-19	Adherence to government guidelines Internal IT guidance Parental consent prior to any interactions via ICT for remote meetings etc.
8.	Risk of child protection training not being completed	Child Protection Awareness Programme – to be managed nationally so organisation has full oversight. Interim process in place re Covid 19 restrictions

Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First Guidance*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A guide for policy, Procedure and Practice* and also Children (NI) Order 1995 In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures are in place.

- Guidance for dealing with allegations of abuse or misconduct against volunteers/ workers, of a child availing of our service.
- Safe Recruitment Process
- Mandatory Safeguarding Training Programme
- Guidance on Reporting of child protection and welfare concerns to the Statutory Authorities as defined by current legislation.

Mandated Persons

List of mandated persons can be made available on request from Dr Lisa Cunningham-Guthrie at cmo@orderofmalta.ie

This includes all our Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics, Advanced Paramedics and EMTs on their respective registers, as well as paid employees in our Headquarters.

Implementation

We recognise the implementation is an ongoing process. Order of Malta Ireland 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 services, both as members and users of its services. This statement will be displayed in all our premises and any locations where we provide a service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in February 2024 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

If you have any questions in respect of this statement, please contact our Relevant Person

Relevant Person – Catherine Purcell – Asst Director – Standards and Governance
Designated Liaison Person / DLP – Susan Roe - 087 6212026