



Foróige's Child Safeguarding Statement



1. Our purpose, services and principles to safeguard children and young people from harm

Foróige believes in the potential of every child and young person. Our purpose is to enable young people to involve themselves consciously and actively in their own development and the development of society. We are dedicated to ensuring that young people have opportunities to engage in developmental structures, programmes and activities so that they can lead happier, healthier and more fulfilled lives.

We believe that the welfare and protection from harm of children and young people is of paramount importance in everything we do. Our staff and adult volunteers take all reasonable care to ensure that all children and young people involved in our clubs, groups, projects, services and programmes are protected from harm and abuse of any kind. Our commitment to safeguarding children and young people in Foróige is grounded in our philosophy which outlines the importance of children and young people being treated with respect, listened to and having their views taken into consideration.

2. Risk Assessment

Foróige has completed an assessment of the potential for harm to children and young people that are engaged in the organisation and maintains a risk register in relation to this. Harm in this context is related to assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child or young person that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child or young person's health, development or welfare, or sexual abuse of the child or young person. This register identifies all risks of harm and lists the procedures, policies, programmes and practices that help reduce or eliminate these risks.

3. Procedures

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 Foróige procedures support our intention to safeguard children and young people while they are availing of our services:

- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the people in Foróige who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct, against staff or volunteers, of a child or young person availing of our services;

All procedures listed are available upon request.

4. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Volunteers, staff and management in our clubs, groups, projects, services and programmes are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children and young people safe from harm while availing of our services.

Foróige's Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by March 31st 2020 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: 

John Cahill
Assistant CEO
Foróige

