

Child Safeguarding Statement



is a member of Scouting Ireland and provides Scouting activities to the members of this Community in this Scout Hall and when away from the Scout Hall on activities.

Our Aim is to encourage the social, physical, intellectual, character, emotional and spiritual development of young people so that they may achieve their full potential and, as responsible citizens, improve society through outdoor activities, including but not limited to: hiking, camping, canoeing, sailing and any other activities that take place in this Scout Group for children aged 6 – 18.

Principles to safeguard children from harm

Scouting Ireland recognises that the welfare of children is of paramount importance in everything we do. We aim to ensure that, regardless of gender, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race and membership of the Traveller community, all children have a positive and enjoyable experience of Scouting in a safe and child-centred environment.

We are committed to ensuring that all children and young people are protected from harm and abuse, are treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration while participating in any Scouting activities.

Risk assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services, including the area of online safety when accessing the internet. Below is a summary list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures and/or policies for managing these risks.

Risk Identified	Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk
A child being harmed*, or at risk of harm*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedures Code of Behaviour: To assist adults engaging with children in scouting Garda Vetting Policy Safeguarding Training
A child being harmed*, or at risk of harm*, during online scouting activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Child Protection Policy & Procedures Online Safety policy implemented across all social media platforms:
Scouting Ireland personnel fail to recognise harm* or risk of harm*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedures Safeguarding Training
Scouting Ireland Personnel fail to report harm* or risk of harm*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Child Protection Policy & Procedures Code of Behaviour: To assist adults engaging with children in scouting Safeguarding Training
Failure to Provide information, instruction and / or training to Scouting Ireland Personnel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Child Protection Policy & Procedures Code of Behaviour Safeguarding Training
Failure to observe Scouting Irelands Safeguarding Policy & Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Code of Behaviour Child Safeguarding Child Protection Policy & Procedures



Child Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedures



Camping and out of Doors policy & The Camping and Out of Doors Guidelines

A separate risk assessment document, outlining a more detailed assessment of each of the above identified risks is available at this location upon request.

* 'harm', as defined by section 2 of the Children First Act 2015

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in accordance with 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 staff or volunteers in respect of a child availing of our service. (Section 5 of Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures)
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of staff and volunteers to work with children. (Section 8 of Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedures)
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm. (Section 9 of Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedures)
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Scouting Ireland and TUSLA. (Section 4 of Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures)
- Procedure for maintaining a list of Mandated Persons. (Section 2 and Appendix 2 of Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures.)
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person. (Section 2 of Scouting Ireland's Child Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures)

Child Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy & Procedures



Adult Training

The Safeguarding Department of Scouting Ireland National Office may be contacted at +353 (1) 4998014 or at safeguarding@scouts.ie.

Youth members can also contact Childline on 1800 66 66 66 by text (50101) or at www.childline.ie to speak confidentially about any concern.

All policies & procedures listed are available on www.scouts.ie or on request from Scouting Ireland National Office at safeguarding@scouts.ie.

Implementation and review

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process.

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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 while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by **14th February 2024** or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers. This statement has been published and is displayed in a prominent place on the premises.

It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with this Scout Group. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and members of the public if requested.

Relevant Person pursuant to the Children First Act 2015

Should you have any queries, please contact Michael Lynch, Safeguarding Manager, Scouting Ireland at (01) 4998014 or at safeguarding@scouts.ie, our Relevant Person pursuant to the Children First Act 2015.

Anne Griffin
Chief Executive Officer

Michael Lynch
Safeguarding Manager