



CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Clones Family Resource Centre CLG

March 2018

Checklist

Developing a Child Safeguarding Statement	Complete
Carry out the Risk Assessment	Yes
List details of the service provided and management structure	Yes
List principles to protect children from harm	Yes
Appoint a Relevant Person	Yes
Draw up a list of Mandated Persons	Yes
Check you have all the required policies and procedures	Yes
Amend your child protection and welfare reporting procedures, to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>information on Mandated Persons and how they report</i> • <i>information from Children First, National Guidance, 2017</i> 	Yes
Develop new procedures to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Appoint a relevant person</i> • <i>Draw up list of Mandated Persons</i> 	N/A
Provide all staff and board members with information about their responsibilities under the Children First Act, 2015	Yes
Include details on review and implementation	Yes

Child Safeguarding Statement

NAME OF SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES PROVIDED: Clones Family Resource Centre

Clones FRC, in association with Tusla, Child and Family Agency, is involved in providing low level intervention / a helping hand to families in Clones and the surrounding area through the unique Beacon Family Support Project. In addition to this we provide an annual summer camp for children aged from five to twelve years. From time to time special activities and outings are also arranged for families

The management structure of Clones FRC is governed by a voluntary board of directors who are appointed at a public AGM which is held annually. Clones FRC is a registered charity and is externally audited each year. The core funding comes from Tusla, Child and Family Agency

1. COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM

- Our Service is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can play, learn and develop.
- Our service believes that the welfare of the children attending our service is paramount. We are committed to child-centred practice in all our work with children.
- We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our service, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, 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, committee/ board members and students on work placement within our organisation. All committee board members, staff, volunteers and students must sign up to and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance 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 service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.
- **Designated Liaison Person** for Child Protection

DLP:

Angela Graham 086 1785710

Deputy:

Laura Hughes 087 3692389

2. RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Board of Management/Service Provider has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in service activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the service procedures for managing those risks is summarised below:

Risk Identified	Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk
New volunteers for Summer Camp	All trained in child protection on an annual basis. Volunteers never left alone with children, FRC staff present
Visitors to the FRC during Camp	Report to FRC reception and sign in. No access to children camp
Casual workers on the premises	Report to FRC reception and sign in. No access to children In the Centre
New staff employed at the FRC	All new staff are Garda vetted and complete the new online Introduction to Children First elearning programme

3. CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As required by the Children First Act, 2015, Children First National Guidance for Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and the Guidance for Developing for a Child Safeguarding statement for Early Years Services 2018 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
- Policy for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse or Neglect Against Employees
- 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)
- All staff have completed the Tusla eLearning module – *Introduction to Children First* and relevant staff have attended Always Children First Child Protection Training.
- Staff have access to regular Supervision and Support in line with the service policy.
- Complaints Policy
- Policy for Managing Outings
- Policy for Managing Accidents and Incidents
- Social Media Management Policy

4. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

- We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service 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 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 published on the service website and is displayed in the service. It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with the service. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla if requested.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Service Provider's name and contact details: Clones FRC

For further information on this Statement contact Angela Graham, Project Coordinator

RISK ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Person(s) carrying out Risk Assessment:

Date:

Risk Identified	Who is Responsible?	What is Currently in Place to Manage the Risk	What Future Actions are Needed?
New volunteers for Summer Camp	Dara MacGabhann Networking Officer	Child Protection training offered to all volunteers on an annual basis Child protections Policies and Procedures in place under Children First Guidelines	Continue to provide the training
Visitors to the FRC during Camp	Angela Graham Manager	Sign in register at reception Lead person for camp does not permit any visitors into the rooms used by children	Continue to use the sign in register and block all visitors to summer camps that are not part of the scheduled programme
Casual workers on the premises	Angela Graham	Sign in register at reception No admittance to rooms used by children at the camp	Continue to use the sign in register and block all visiting workers to summer camps
New staff employed at the FRC	Angela Graham	Child protections Policies and Procedures in place under Children First Guidelines All new staff are Garda vetted and complete the new online Tusla Introduction to Children First elearning programme	Continue to carry out Garda vetting on all new staff and keep other staff vetting updated every three years Continue the practice of all staff completing the Tusla online elearning programme and print off certificates

