

Foróige's Child Safeguarding Statement 2022 - 2024



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 safely 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 to children and young people in Foróige and lists the procedures, policies, programmes and practices that mitigate against and help reduce or eliminate these risks. To the right is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of the main procedures in Foróige for mitigating against these risks.

| Overall Mitigating Procedures in Place Relating to All Risks | Risk Identified | Mitigating Procedures in Place Relating to a Specific Risk |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Safeguarding Statement Child Protection Policy and Guidelines Foróige's Charter of Rights Code of Good Practice for Working with Young People Codes of Conduct for Board, Staff and Volunteers Staff and Volunteer Recruitment Policy and Procedures and Training Foróige Supervision and Overnight Events Guidelines | Risk of Assault | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk Assessment for Venues, Events and Trips Group and Individual Behaviour Contracts |
| | Risk of Ill Treatment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foróige's Be Healthy, Be Happy Programme Complaints Policy and Procedures Foróige Against Bullying Programme |
| | Risk of Neglect | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health and Safety Policy and statements Foróige Insurance Information Booklet Foróige's Be Healthy, Be Happy Programme |
| | Risk of Sexual Abuse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foróige's Sexual Health Promotion Policy and Programme Foróige's REAL U Programme |
| | Risk of Online Abuse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foróige's Online Safety Programme Foróige's Social Media Guidelines Foróige Against Bullying Programme |

3. PROCEDURES

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, 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
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person

All procedures listed are available upon request.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process.

Volunteers, staff and management in 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 2024 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.


John Cahill
 Assistant CEO
 Foróige

FOR QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT

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Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015