

ISPCC Child Safeguarding Statement

Name of service: ISPCC

1. Nature of service being provided:

The ISPCC works to realise its vision by providing a range of independent and unique services to children, to the age of 18, and families that are preventative and empowering in nature. Here at the I.S.P.C.C. we provide the following services and activities to children/young people:

- Childline Listening Services
- Childline Therapeutic Support Service
- Childline Resilience Groupwork
- Non-Violent Resistance Groupwork programme
- Digital Mental Health and Wellbeing programmes
- Community engagement outreach
- Children's Advisory Committees
- Children's Participation Events
- Fundraising events including young people and Transition year students

2. Guiding Principles to safeguard children from harm

1. Our priority is to ensure the welfare and safety of every child and young person who attends our service is paramount.
2. Our guiding principles and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and we will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures every two years.
3. All children and young people have an equal right to attend a service that respects them as individuals and encourages them to reach their potential, regardless of their background.
4. 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.
5. Our guiding principles apply to everyone in our organisation.
6. Workers/volunteers must conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of our organisation.

The ISPCC will at all times adopt safe care practices that minimize the possibility of harm, injury, abuse or neglect to a child utilising our services, and which encourages safe practice from staff.

3. 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. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks. All risks identified below are as defined in the Children First Act, 2015.

Risk of harm as defined in the Act means, in relation to a child – (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare, or (b) sexual abuse of a child.

ISPCC risk assessment procedure is outlined on page 2 of this document.

4. 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. The following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services:

Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against ISPCC workers/volunteers of a child while availing of our service.

- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers.
- 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 persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person
- All procedures listed are available on request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service 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 service. The Child Safeguarding Statement is displayed prominently in all our services and will be reviewed on 10th April 2025, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:



Provider of the Relevant Service under the Children First Act, 2015: John Church CEO, ISPCC, Unit 3, Block 2 Harbour Rd, Crofton Rd., Dún Laoghaire, Dublin, A96 D6R0
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The Relevant Person as required under the Children First Act, 2015 is Caroline O'Sullivan, Director of Services, ISPCC.
Contact details are: ISPCC, 115 O'Connell St., Limerick. Tel: 087 6914399 Email: caroline.o'sullivan@ispcc.ie

3. Risk assessment (continued)

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p>1. Risk of harm of abuse to a child or young person by a staff member, volunteer, or student</p>	<p>ISPCC Recruitment & Selection Policy Manual Allegations of abuse against Staff and Volunteers Procedure Student Placement Policy Garda Vetting Procedure Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and Welfare concerns Transport of children and young people policy Anti-Bullying Policy Social Media and Digital Images Policy Staff IT Policy Code of Behaviour for staff, volunteers or students Complaints Policy and Procedures Procedure for the Information and Training of staff and volunteers in relation to the occurrence of harm Supervision of children and young people procedure</p>
<p>2. Risk of harm of abuse to a child or young person as a result of staff, volunteers or student volunteers failing to respond to a child protection concern</p>	<p>ISPCC Child Safeguarding Policy, Procedure and Practice Manual On Call Procedures Complaints Policy and Procedure Whistleblowing Policy Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns Procedure for the Information and Training of staff and volunteers in relation to the occurrence of harm ISPCC Policy No. 5.9 Digital Mental Health and Well Being Programmes</p>
<p>3. Risk of harm of abuse to a child or young person from members of the public or visitors to any of our offices</p>	<p>Sign in/out system procedure Supervision of children and young people procedure Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns</p>
<p>4. Risk of harm of abuse to a child or young while engaged in ISPCC activities such as the Children’s Advisory Committees, fundraising or any other organized ISPCC events.</p>	<p>Transport of children and young people policy One to one working policy Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns Complaints Policy & Procedure Code of Behaviour for Staff, Volunteers and students Supervision of children and young people procedure ISPCC Recruitment & Selection Policy Manual Garda Vetting Procedure Reporting Child Protection and welfare concerns Anti-Bullying Policy Social Media and Digital Images Policy</p>
<p>5. Risk of harm of abuse to a child or young Person while working one to one with staff member or volunteer.</p>	<p>Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns One to one with children and young people procedure Supervision of children and young people procedure Code of Behaviour for Staff, Volunteers and students Complaints Policy and Procedures Childline Policies and Procedures ISPCC Policy No. 5.9 Digital Mental Health and Well Being Programmes Transport of children and young people policy</p>
<p>6. Risk of harm of abuse to children or young people by their peers while engaged in ISPCC organized activities.</p>	<p>Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns Supervision of children and young people procedure Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour for staff volunteers and students Transport of children and young people policy Social Media and Digital Images Policy Complaints Policy and Procedure</p>
<p>7. Risk of harm of abuse to children or young people as a result of inappropriate contact by a staff member,volunteer or student outside of work</p>	<p>Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns Code of behavior for staff volunteers and students Social Media and Digital Images Policy Complaints Policy and Procedures Transport of children and young people policy</p>
<p>8. Risk of harm of abuse by providing outings to children and young people</p>	<p>Reporting Procedure for Child Protection and welfare concerns Supervision of children and young people procedure Anti-Bullying Policy Code of Behaviour for staff, volunteers and students Transport of children and young people policy Social Media and Digital Images Policy Complaints Policy and Procedure</p>
<p>9. Risk of harm of abuse to children and young people by misuse of social media and digital images</p>	<p>Social Media and Digital Images Procedures Safeguarding Reporting procedures for staff/volunteers and students Supervision of children and young people procedure Code of Behaviour for Staff/ Volunteers and students Safeguarding policy and procedures training for Staff/ volunteer</p>