

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm

- Donegal Sports Partnership provides support towards the delivery of various sporting activities and opportunities for children and young people throughout the county to participate in sport and physical activity in communicates, clubs and schools. (delivering specific direct activities in sport as well as delivering Safeguarding training)
- Donegal Sports Partnership is committed to safeguarding children and young people by working under the guidance of Safeguarding Policies and seeking to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

This statement must be read in conjunction with our Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy.

2. Risk Assessment

It should be noted that risk in this context is the risk of abuse and not general Health & Safety Risk. 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 list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1. Risk of harm to children by staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting carried out for all staff • All staff to be provided with Child Protection & Safeguarding policy and procedures. Staff to sign that they understand policy and procedures.
2. Risk of harm to children by tutors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting carried out for all Tutors • All tutors to be provided with Child Protection & Safeguarding policy and procedures. Tutors to sign that they understand policy and procedures.
3. Risk of harm to children by school students on work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School confirms to DSP that Garda vetting has been carried for work experience students • Work experience students supervised at all times if/when working with children.
4. Risk of harm to children by College/University students on work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of Garda Vetting provided before placement commences. • Students to be provided with Child Protection & Safeguarding policy and procedures. College/university students to sign that they understand policy and procedures
5. Risk of harm to children by volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Conduct form to be signed by Volunteers. • Volunteers to be provided with Child Protection & Safeguarding policy and procedures. Volunteers to sign that they understand policy and procedures.
6. Harm not recognised or reported properly, and/or correct procedures not carried out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSP's Child Protection & Safeguarding policy and procedures explained and made available to all those who are working with children.

7. Risk of staff/tutors not having an understanding of importance of safeguarding children in sport/recognising the signs of child abuse/ responding and reporting issues of poor practice and abuse and Best Practice within sport

- All staff and tutors are obliged to attend a mandatory Safeguarding 1 workshop. This is initially completed face to face with all staff and an online refresher course is completed by staff within 2 years of workshop. Following this a face to face workshop is once again mandatory to attend.

3. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015. In addition to our Risk Assessment described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service. Please refer to our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers 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 persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person

All procedures listed are available upon request.

4. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going 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.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on _____, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____ (Donegal Sports Partnership)
 [Myles Sweeney, CEO & Coordinator, Donegal Sports Partnership Office 087-9300756]

For queries, please contact _____, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

Policy Version No	Date signed off by Board	Description/Reason for Policy update	Lead Person Policy/Policy Changes
1.0	Dec 2021	New Policy	MO'D