

CHILD SAFEGAURDING STATEMENT

Updated January 2022

**Ballyhall Community Steiner
Kindergarten
Ballyhall, Callan, Co Kilkenny**



Child Safeguarding Statement

Ballyhall Kindergarten Ltd is registered pre-school providing the following services for children. We cater for children aged 2 years to 5 years and 8 months. We open 48 weeks per year and daily from 8:45am to 12:45pm, Monday to Friday. We have capacity to cater for 32 children at any one time and our ratios are listed in this booklet. This service is a community-based facility operated by a Board of Directors and managed by John McDonald.

Key Personnel:

Manager (Person in charge):	John McDonald
Deputy in the absence of Manager:	Sarah Telford
Health and Safety Officer:	Sarah Telford
Fire Officer:	Catherine Reville
First Aid Co-ordinator:	Sarah Telford
Designated Liaison Officer:	John McDonald
Deputy Designated Liaison Officer:	Sarah Telford
Data Controller:	John McDonald

Management:

Chairperson	Kareen Pennefeather
Director/Secretary:	Marcus Tyl
Director:	Renata Janek
Finance Officer:	John McDonald

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*, DCYA, 2017, *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Practice and Procedure*, Tusla, 2018, 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 (DLP) for Child Protection**

DLP: <i>John McDonald</i>	Deputy: <i>Sarah Telford</i>
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Risk Assessment

In accordance with the *Children First Act 2015*, the Management has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in service activities. Written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the service procedures for managing those risks can be found on **Health & Safety Statement**.

Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

As required by the *Children First Act 2015* and *Children First National Guidance for Protection and Welfare of Children, 2017* the following safeguarding policies/procedures/measures are in place

- Procedure 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

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: _____

Manager: John McDonald

Ph: 056 7706507

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?