



Child Safeguarding Statement

(Articles 10 – 13 of the Children First Act 2015)

NAME AND DETAILS OF SERVICE PROVIDER AND NATURE OF SERVICE.

Service details:

- **Name:** Club Spraoi Before & After School Care
- **Type of Service:** Before & After School Childcare
- **Location:** Brooklodge National School, Brooklodge, Glanmire, Co.Cork
- **Size (Number of staff/volunteers/children):** 4 Staff, Max 45 Children

The service provides the following services for children:

Before School Care (7:30 to 8:50)

After School Care (1:40 to 6:30)

Holiday Care (Mid-terms, Easter and Summer Holidays; 7:30 to 6:30pm)

Activities of the service:

Before School Care

- We provide a healthy breakfast including cereal, toast, yogurt and fruit.
- The after breakfast the children can chose from a range of games and activities, read a book or listen to music.

After School Care

- We supervise the completion of homework
- We provide a healthy snack
- There are a variety of activities on offer to the children including outdoor play and games, art and craft, baking, messy play, constructive play and board games.

Camp & Holiday Care

Camp:

Camp takes place daily from 10:00 to 15:00. Over the course of the week, the children will participate in a variety of activities including arts & crafts, cooking & baking, sports/games, science experiments, construction activities, messy play, quizzes, treasure hunts, nature walks and much more.

(Approximately 3 activities each day).

Before Camp Care:

For children that arrive before Camp, we offer them breakfast of cereal and/or toast, after which they can enjoy free-play until Camp begins at 10:00.

After Camp Care:

Once Camp is over at 15:00, the children can enjoy free-play including Lego, K'nex, Geomags, Marble Run, board games, Hama beads and much more. The children can also enjoy outdoor activities including basketball, tennis, football, skipping or a picnic if the weather is nice.

PRINCIPLES TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM

- the safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility
- a proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents/guardians/carers and families; but where there is conflict, the child's welfare comes first. This is often referred to as the paramountcy principle
- parents/guardians/carers have a right to respect and so should be consulted and involved in matters concerning their children. In particular, parents/guardians/carers should be informed if Club Spraoi's Designated Liaison Person (DLP) intends to report concerns of possible child abuse or neglect to the relevant authorities (unless providing such information to the parents/guardians might place the child at risk)
- children have the right to be heard, listened to and taken seriously. Taking account of their age and understanding, they should be consulted and involved in all matters and decisions that may affect their lives
- actions taken to protect a child should not in themselves be abusive or cause the child unnecessary distress and every action and procedure should consider the overall needs of the child
- the criminal dimension of any action cannot be ignored; and thus, notifications of child protection concerns, suspicions or allegations to An Garda Síochána and/or Tusla are important

- child protection is a multiagency, multidisciplinary activity. Agencies and professionals must work together in the interests of children.

RISK ASSESSMENT

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified ('harm' as defined in the Children First Act 2015) and the list of procedures and/or policies for managing these risks. These Policies are available upon request.

Risk Identified	Policy / Procedure in Place to Manage Risk
Risk of Bullying to a child	Anti-Bullying Policy
Risk of harm of sexual abuse (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) of a child by a member of staff/volunteer	Child Safeguarding Policy; Garda Vetting of each volunteer, staff etc.
Risk of harm of physical/ psychological/ emotional harm (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) of a child by a member of staff/volunteer.	Child Safeguarding Policy; Garda Vetting of each volunteer, staff etc. Policy on Managing Behaviour

CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children's First Act 2015, *Children's First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our service.

- Procedure in respect of any member of staff/volunteer who is the subject of any investigation (howsoever described) in respect of any act, omission or circumstance in respect of a child availing of our service.
- 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 Policies / Procedures are available upon request.

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 on 1st May 2020 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 a prominent place on the premises.
- 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 and members of the public if requested.

Signed by the Service Provider: Priscilla McCann

Date: 1st May 2019

For further information on this Statement, contact:

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