

Child Safeguarding Statement



23rd Limerick Scout Group Blackthorn Drive, Caherdavin, Limerick

is a member of Scouting Ireland and provides Scouting activities to the members of this Community in this Scout Hall and when away from the Scout Hall on activities.

This Scout Group provides the following activities including but not limited to: hiking, camping, canoeing, sailing and any other activities that take place in this Scout Group for children aged 6 – 18:

Principles to safeguard children from harm

This statement recognises that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that regardless of gender, marital status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race and membership of the Traveller community, all children have a positive and enjoyable experience of Scouting in a safe and child centered environment and are protected from abuse whilst taking part in any Scouting activities.

This Group aims to ensure that Children will be protected from bullying within all Scouting activities in this Scout Group. This Scout Group will ensure that a current and relevant anti-bullying policy is reviewed annually.

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.

Risk Identified	Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk
Bullying of 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, relevant Safeguarding training completed, all Adults re-vetted and re-trained every 3 years.
Risk of harm of physical/psychological/emotional abuse (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) of a child by a member of staff/volunteer.	Code of Good Practice.
Risk of harm of abuse when away for overnight stays / excursions.	Camping and out of Doors policy & The Camping And Out of Doors Guidelines.
Risk of harm of online abuse through social media.	Online Safety policy implemented across all social media platforms: (Code of Good Practice)



Code of Good Practice



Outdoor Policy



Outdoor Guidelines

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. This process is outlined on page 23 in the Code of Good Practice

Code of Good Practice



Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of volunteers to work with children. This policy is outlined in the Welcoming Adults to Scouting: Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm. This is provided on the Being a Scouter course which must be completed before adults start working with children.



Welcoming adults to Scouting

Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Scouting Ireland and TUSLA. This process is outlined on page 23 in the Code of Good Practice

Procedure for maintaining a list of Mandated Persons

Scouting Ireland will have a procedure for appointing a relevant person.

Scouting Ireland will appoint a full time member of staff for all who will be the Mandated Person for all Scout Groups in Ireland.

The relevant Person for Scouting Ireland will be member of Scouting Ireland's professional staff and can be contacted on 01 4956300 or safeguarding@scouts.ie

All policies listed are available on www.scouts.ie or on request from Scouting Ireland National Office at safeguarding@scouts.ie

Implementation and review

- We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process.

The **23rd Limerick Scout Group**

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 by **1st March 2021** 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 and is displayed in a prominent place on the premises.
- It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with this Scout Group. 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.

Name: John Lawlor
Chief Executive Officer

Name: Jill Lacey
Position - Relevant Person