St. Patrick's Festival

Child Safeguarding Statement

Name of Organisation

Feilte Dhuibh Linne Cuideachta Faoi Theorainn Ráthaíochta t/a St. Patrick's Festival

Organisation's Commitment to Safeguarding

St. Patrick's Festival is committed to the protection and welfare of children, and we recognise our obligation to create a culture of safety that promotes the welfare of children and young people who participate in and attend our events. St. Patrick's Festival's dedicated team are committed to the safeguarding of children and young people who interact with Festival activities and seek to create a safe environment for them to learn, create and enjoy.

Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child whilst involved in any St. Patrick's Festival activities or events. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk Identified	**Likelihood** Low / Med/ High	**Seriousness** Low / Med/ High	**Procedure in Place to Manage Identified Risk**	**Person responsible for mitigating measures**
Children forming an inappropriate relationship with an adult employee of the Festival	Low	High	All employees receive a copy of our Child Protection Policy and are trained on being aware of child protection issues as part of the induction process. Anyone working on a regular basis with children and/or vulnerable adults are Garda Vetted. All the events run by the Festival are open events held in public places and parents accompany their children at the events. Where existing groups are involved in performing with St. Patrick's Festival (SPF) in addition to SPF staff, their own group leaders are asked to attend rehearsals and events.	Operations Director Community Groups Project Manager
Unauthorised photography and recording activity	Low	Medium	All Festival photographers are required to register for media accreditation prior to the event. They are easily identifiable by their hi-vis jackets. When photos/videos are taken, if children or vulnerable adults are identifiable in them, a consent	Head of Marketing Head of Security

			form needs to be completed by the parent/guardian. Security at events are trained to be vigilant for unauthorised photography and recording.	
Child being abducted or taken away by an unauthorised adult	Low	High	All events are designed so that parents/guardians can stay with, or at least have sight of their children during activities/events. All our events have a security and Garda presence to deter such actions.	Head of Production Head of Security Artistic Director Parents
Missing Children	Low	High	Missing child policy is in place for all our events and communicated to all key members of the team.	Head of Production Head of Security
Recruitment of inappropriate volunteers	Medium	Medium	There is a volunteer recruitment process that takes place and a dedicated volunteer coordinator who oversees the process. Volunteers only come into contact with children and vulnerable adults in the course of the Festival events days and at all times parents or instructors will be in attendance. If problems arise with volunteers, there is a dedicated volunteer coordinator to deal with the situation.	Volunteer Coordinator

Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, 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 for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers 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 procedures listed are available upon request

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. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on 01/09/27, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: Julia Dalton

(Provider)

Date: 1st September 2026

Next review date: 1st September 2027

Provider's name and contact details: Julia Dalton, Operations Director
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For queries, please contact Julia Dalton: julia@stpatricksfestival.ie

Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015