



Child Safeguarding Statement

Blueway Art Studio, managed by owner Angelina Foster, which provides mobile workshops services in off-site locations for people of all ages. Blueway Art Studio is also a venue that provides a location for these activities at The Bandhall, Narraghmore, Co Kildare. This document states what Angelina Foster/Blueway Art Studio will do to minimize the risks and what steps we will take to ensure the safety of children, vulnerable adults using our services.

1/We are committed to a child centred approach to our work with children, young people and vulnerable people. We undertake to provide a safe environment and experience, where the welfare of the child / young person is paramount. We will adhere to the recommendations of Child First: National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children, published by the Department of Health & Children.

Our policy declaration applies to all staff, volunteers, and students on work placement within our organisation. All staff, tutors, volunteers, and students on must sign up to and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance encompassed by the policy declaration and our Child Protection & Welfare Policy and Procedures.

We will review our Child Safeguarding Statement and accompanying Child Protection Policies and Procedures every two years or sooner, if necessary, due the service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

Designated Liaison Person: Angelina Foster

Dated: 3rd June 2022.

For further information please contact Angelina on 086 7329680 or email hello@BluewayArtStudio.ie

Risk Assessment

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015 and Children First National Guidance for Child Protection and Welfare 2017, Blueway Art Studio has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in service activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the service procedures for managing those risks is summarised below:

	Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage Risk
	Risk of harm not being recognised by staff. Risk not being properly and promptly reported by staff.	Circulation of Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection & Welfare Policy and Procedures to all staff. Reporting risks. Recognising abuse procedures. Training of all staff.
	Staff and Volunteers unsuitable for working with children	Procedures for the safe recruitment and selection of Tutors, Assistant Tutors and volunteers to work with children, including Garda vetting and adherence to Child Protection Policies.
	Staff and Volunteers ill equipped to safeguard children from harm	Implement procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information. Ensure it is part of all induction training.
	Child unsure about how or to whom to report an issue	Ensure that reporting procedures are clearly stated and easily accessible to all.
	Facilitators and Volunteers unsure as to how or to whom to voice a concern about a child at risk.	Ensure that reporting procedures are clearly stated and easily accessible to all.
	Inappropriate use or dissemination of children's images or information	Ensure all Staff and Volunteers adhere to social media and documentation procedures including consent sought for the taking, use and storage of images.
	Child leaving the venue or space without adult supervision.	Ensure that more one Tutor / Facilitator is available and does not allow child to leave unsupervised.

Policies & Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, Children 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:

- Recruitment Policy which includes procedures in place for the safe recruitment and selection of all staff and volunteers to work with children
- Code of Behaviours for working with Children

- Induction Policy (which includes procedures to inform new staff about the Child Safeguarding Statement and accompanying safeguarding policies and procedures)
- Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedures
- Procedure for the 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 the management of allegations of abuse, misconduct or complaints against workers / volunteers of a child availing of our services
- Procedure for Managing Child Protection Records
- Garda Vetting 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 services.

This statement will be reviewed every two 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 in the service. It readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. Our Child Protection & Welfare Policy and Procedures, and/or a copy of this statement will be made available to Tusla, if requested.