**Child Safeguarding Statement**

1. **NAME OF SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES PROVIDED**

*Include details of your service here. Activities provided, to who and management structure*

Scoil Chroí Íosa Early Years’ Service is registered pre-school providing the following services for children aged 2 yrs 8 months to 6- years: This is a sessional service, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

The management structure is:

Board of Management, Principal, Early Years’ Service Leader and Childcare assistant

1. **COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM**

*Amend as appropriate to your service*

* Scoil Chroí Íosa Early Years’ 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:**  *Pauline Murray 0879875944* | **Deputy:**  *Maureen Sugrue 091525904* |

1. **RISK ASSESSMENT**

In accordance with the *Children First Act 2015*, the Board of Management/Service Provider 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 | Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk |
| Staff, Students, Volunteers | Recruitment Policy  Induction Policy  Garda Vetting Policy  Supervision Policy |
| Visitors to Service | Visitors need to ring bell to gain access to school.  Children are never left alone with visitors.  Visitors Policy |
| Garda Vetting | Garda Vetting Policy and updates to be applied for  every 3 years. |
| Collection of Children | Only authorised personnel authorised by parents (in  writing on enrolment form) can collect children. |
| Toileting | Accompanied by an adult at all times until child  and adult are confident that child goes on own, but is  visible to adult when exiting cubicle. If the child  requires assistance another adult is called to witness EYE  assisting child.  Toileting Policy  Supervision Policy |
| Inadequate Training in Staff in Child  Protection | All staff complete Tusla e-learning *Introduction to*  *Children First* and relevant staff to attend Always  *Children First Child Protection and Training*.  Child Safeguarding Statement and Child Protection  Procedures available to all staff, |
| Children’s Records | Confidentiality Policy |
| Photos | Permission obtained from Parents – Student or  School Use only.  Confidentiality Policy  Social Media Policy |
| Outings | Garda Vetting Policy  Supervision Policy  Policy for Managing Outings |

1. **CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

*Amend as appropriate – other policies and procedures may be required in your service*

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 – Pauline Murray
* 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

**Note:** *The above is not intended as an exhaustive list. Service Providers should also include in this section such other procedures/measures that are of relevance to their service.*

1. **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:** \_\_\_Pauline Murray*\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_1st September 2020\_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider’s name and contact details:**

**For further information on this Statement, contact Relevant Person:**

**Pauline Murray, Scoil Chroi Iosa Early Years’ Service Leader, 091-525904 or**

**087-9875944 or paulinemurray@scoilchroiiosa.ie**