

Child Safeguarding Statement

Nenagh Arts Centre

Nature of Service

Nenagh Arts Centre provides artistic, cultural, educational and recreational activities for children, young people and adults, including performances, workshops, classes, exhibitions and related programmes.

Nenagh Arts Centre is committed to a child-centred approach in all aspects of its work with children and young people. We recognise the right of every child to be safe and protected from harm and to be treated with dignity, respect and care.

Our organisation is committed to safeguarding children and young people participating in our activities and services. We undertake to provide a safe environment and experience where the welfare of the child is paramount.

This Child Safeguarding Statement has been prepared in accordance with the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, and Tusla's guidance on child safeguarding.

This statement applies to all employees, volunteers, board members, contractors, artists, workshop facilitators, students on placement and any other persons working on behalf of Nenagh Arts Centre.

All personnel are required to familiarise themselves with and comply with the organisation's Child Safeguarding Policy and related procedures.

Designated Liaison Persons

Designated Liaison Person (DLP): Dr Fiana Ní Chonaill

Deputy Designated Liaison Person (Deputy DLP): Michelle Donnellan

Contact:

Nenagh Arts Centre

Banba Square, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

Tel: 067 34400

Risk Assessment

In accordance with Section 11 of the Children First Act 2015, Nenagh Arts Centre has undertaken a risk assessment of the potential for harm to a child while availing of our services or participating in our activities.

The following risks have been identified and measures are in place to manage these risks:

Risk Identified	Procedures in Place to Manage Risk
Unsuitable employees, artists, facilitators or volunteers working with children	Safe recruitment procedures, Garda Vetting where required, reference checks, role descriptions, induction and adherence to safeguarding policies
Personnel insufficiently trained in child safeguarding responsibilities	Mandatory safeguarding induction, access to Tusla Children First eLearning, regular safeguarding updates and training
Child unsure how to report a concern or complaint	Child-friendly reporting procedures, accessible information, trusted adults identified and safeguarding information displayed
Staff, volunteers or parents unsure how to report a child protection concern	Clear reporting procedures, designated liaison persons appointed, guidance available and regular communication
Inappropriate one-to-one contact between adults and children	Code of Behaviour, supervision procedures, open and observable environments, recording and reporting requirements
Inappropriate use of photography, video or social media	Photography and media consent procedures, social media guidelines and data protection controls
Online or remote activities creating safeguarding risks	Online safety procedures, parental consent where appropriate, supervision requirements and approved communication channels
Allegations or concerns regarding staff, volunteers or contractors	Procedures for managing allegations against personnel and reporting to relevant authorities
Bullying, harassment or peer-on-peer abuse	Anti-bullying procedures, supervision, reporting mechanisms and appropriate intervention measures
Inadequate supervision during activities, performances or events	Appropriate staff-to-child ratios, risk assessments and supervision procedures

Safeguarding Procedures

Nenagh Arts Centre has adopted and implements the following safeguarding policies and procedures:

- Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedures
- Procedure for Maintaining Confidentiality

- Procedure for the Management and Secure Storage of Child Protection Records
- Recruitment and Selection Policy
- Garda Vetting Policy
- Code of Behaviour for Working with Children and Young People
- Managing Allegations Against Staff, Volunteers and Contractors Procedure
- Complaints Procedure
- Photography, Recording and Social Media Policy
- Online Safety and Digital Communications Guidelines
- Staff and Volunteer Induction Procedures
- Health and Safety Procedures relevant to children and young people

Training and Awareness

Nenagh Arts Centre is committed to ensuring that all relevant personnel:

- Complete the Tusla Children First eLearning Programme.
- Receive safeguarding information during induction.
- Understand their responsibilities under Children First legislation and guidance.
- Know how to recognise, respond to and report child protection concerns.
- Receive additional safeguarding training appropriate to their role.

Implementation and Review

Nenagh Arts Centre recognises that safeguarding is an ongoing process.

We are committed to implementing this Child Safeguarding Statement and the associated policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while participating in our activities and services.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every two years, or as soon as practicable following any material change in legislation, national guidance, organisational structure or service delivery.

This statement is available:

- On the Nenagh Arts Centre website;
- At the premises of Nenagh Arts Centre;

- To staff, volunteers and contractors;
- To parents, guardians and children on request;
- To Tusla upon request.

Declaration

We have reviewed and adopted this Child Safeguarding Statement and are committed to implementing the safeguarding measures outlined above.

Signed: *Mara Ní Chonáill*

Date: *23/06/2026*

Review Date: *23/06/2026*