

Child Safeguarding Statement

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Outreach Project CLG (DROPP) offer both one to one and group work service provisions throughout the continuum of care to those seeking support for addiction issues. As part of our tailored services, DROPP provide services to those over the age of 18 but understand our responsibility in the safeguarding of young people. This Child Safeguarding Statement outlines the procedures and principles governing the safety and wellbeing of those using this service.

DROPP takes seriously its statutory obligations as set out in legislation for the protection and reporting of child protection concerns. This statement seeks to address our compliance issues as set out in The Tusla Children First Child Safeguarding Guide 2012, Children First Act (2015); Children First National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017); The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016.

As a relevant service DROPP is fully committed to the ongoing implementation of the following principles and procedures in order to limit risk to children and young people.

This Safeguarding Statement provides a summary of policies that inform DROPP's Child Protection obligations. For a more comprehensive insight contact the manager to access the organisational policy.

1. Child Safeguarding policies and procedures

- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers. See Recruitment and Selection Policy
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm. See Child Protection and Welfare Policy
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla. See Child Protection and Welfare Policy.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service that are mandated persons. All employees are mandated persons. However, the Relevant Person is the Manager, and reporting follows this structure. Nevertheless, employees should refer to organisational policy for direction on making mandated complaints.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person. See comprehensive Child Protection and Welfare Policy.

2. Commitment to Safeguard Children from harm

- Our Organisation believes that the welfare of the children and young people is paramount
- We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, to be listened to, and heard.
- Our policy declaration applies to all paid staff, TUS/CE workers, volunteers, sub committee's/ board members and students on work placement within our organisation. All subcommittee, 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.

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Outreach Project CLG promotes the following practice in relation to Child Protection and Welfare

- Staff and volunteers will show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of children and young people
- All service users attending our services are informed of our Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Guidelines
- Inappropriate behaviour and language by adults should not go unchallenged
 - The Relevant Person will deal with any complaints or issues arising which concern the safety or welfare of a child and or young person
 - All new staff and volunteers providing relevant work within the organisation will be Garda Vetted and references will be sought, checked and kept on file.

- Staff need to be alert to the possibility of child abuse and to support children/ young people to engage with services relevant to their needs

Relevant Person for Child Protection

Any person with a concern regarding the wellbeing of a young person that has become evident in their work with service users of DROPP should immediately contact a member of staff to discuss their concern. The Relevant Person for reporting concerns to is the Manager of DROPP. However, any person can make a Child Protection complaint through the Duty Social Worker:

<p>Anthea Carry Manager Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Outreach Project Ph 01-2803187</p>	<p>Deputy: Cian O Lonargain Chairperson Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Outreach Project Ph 01-2803187</p>	<p>Tusla Child & Family Agency Duty Social Worker Unit 9, Nutgrove Retail Park, Churchtown, Dublin 14 Ph 01-9213400</p>
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3. Risk Assessment

In accordance with Children First Act 2015, DROPP has engaged in a review of our service provision. A risk assessment was undertaken by the Manager and potential risks have been identified, and appropriate and proportional measures put in place to address concerns. See Child Protection and Welfare policy

Risk Description	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
Risk of harm to a child from a member of staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-employment checks (i.e. garda vetting, reference checks) • Code of Practice Policy • Child Protection & Welfare Policy
Risk of inappropriate or abusive behaviours by staff etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Garda Vetting Policy • Induction for all staff • Child Protection Training • Access to children first resources • TCI training for all staff
Risk of non-compliance with Children First Act and National Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Safeguarding Policy on display publically • Child Protection & Welfare Policy, reviewed annually and signed off by staff • All staff aware of Children First and Mandatory Reporting • Ongoing review of best practice
Risk of Harm or concern not being recognised or reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear procedures in place within Child Protection & Welfare Policy • Clear reporting procedure • All staff aware of legal consequences for non-reporting • All staff must complete "An Introduction to Children First" e-learning module • All service users made aware of the Child Protection & Welfare Policy and Confidentiality Policy
One to one lone working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lone Working policy in place • Regular Line Management and Clinical Supervision as per policies • Team Meetings
Challenging Behaviours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection Policy • TCI Training • Ensure training and policy is current



4. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.

This Child Safeguarding 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 is displayed in the service and on our website. It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with the organisation. It is readily accessible to service users on request. Any stakeholder can seek from DROPP a copy of organisational policy as it pertains to this document.

Signed: Anthea Carry (Provider) Date: 10th April 2019 (Version 1)

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Outreach Project | 45 Upper Georges Street | Dun Laoghaire | Tel 01-2803187
For queries, please contact Anthea Carry
Relevant Person under the Children First Act (2015)