



ROCKBORO PRESCHOOL

CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT & RISK ASSESSMENT

Developing a Child Safeguarding Statement	Complete
List details of service provided and management structure	✓
List Principals to protect children from harm	✓
Appoint a relevant person	✓
Draw up a list of mandated persons	✓
Check you have all the required policies and procedures	✓
Amend your child protection and reporting procedures to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on mandated persons and how they report • Information from Children’s First, National Guidance 2017 	✓
Develop new procedures to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint a relevant person • Draw up a list of mandated persons 	✓
Provide all staff and board members with information about their responsibilities under the children’s first act 2015	✓
Include details on review and implementation	✓

Using this document:

- Under the children’s first act 2015, all organisations that work with children who employ one of more persons are required to have a child safeguarding statements. Employees here include people who are unpaid – for example, students, and volunteers and relief staff.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Rockboro Preschool is Part Time Service and is Tusla registered, providing the following services for children aged 2 years to 6 years.

1. COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM

- Rockboro Preschool (including Early Start and After Care Services) is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can learn, play and develop.
- Rockboro Preschool 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.
- Rockboro Preschool’s policy and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy’s and legislation and are underpinned by Children’s 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 members and work placement students within our organisation. All committee 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.
- Rockboro Preschool will review our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies every 2 years or sooner if necessary due to service issues or changed in legislation or national policy.
- Designation Liaison Person (DLP) for Child Protection

Designated Liaison Person: Susan Dwane School Principal	Deputy Designated Liaison Person Moirá Heffernan Preschool Manager
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2. RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the board of management/Rockboro Preschool 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
Harm of a child by a member of staff or volunteer	All teachers, other staff member and volunteers are Garda Vetted. All teachers and other staff members have taken part in a certified child protection course or completed the Child First E learning programme online. Our staff and volunteers are carefully selected, trained and supervised. All staff members and volunteers are familiar with the school's policies and procedures in dealing with the children in our care.
Harm of a child by a visitor to Rockboro Primary & Pre-School	All once off visitors to the school are accompanied at all times by a member of staff. Security doors are locked throughout the day and access to the building is only through these doors. The school administrator and teaching staff only, may give access to the school during school hours. All visitors to the pre-school are required to sign in and out.
Harm of a child on outings	Teacher to Pupil Ratio 1:2 (Pre-School) and 1:8 for primary school outings.
Bullying of a child by a member of staff, volunteer or peer	We have an Anti-Bullying Policy in place which all teachers, pupils and parents are expected to familiarise themselves with and adhere to. Topics around bullying are covered through the school curriculum i.e. SPHE. This theme is also highlighted each year during a dedicated week. Our pre-school staff teach this area through respect, tolerance and positive behaviour. Caring and Empathy for others is focused on throughout our curriculum.
Harm of a child through the use of unauthorised photography	At the beginning of each year all families must fill out a consent form. This includes a box ticked to give permission to take or use photographs of their child. Forms are always checked by staff before any photographs or videos are taken.
Harm of online abuse through social media.	Mobile phones or any other personal devices are not permitted in school for students. All classroom laptops used by teachers are password protected. Teachers may not give out these passwords to students. In our Computer Lab, students are always supervised by a teacher while using the internet. Net Nanny is in place and updated regularly. No social media websites are accessed from school computers. Each class is provided with web safety advice on an annual basis by our dedicated IT teacher, through our 'Internet Safety Week'. We use www.webwise.ie . Parents are offered Internet Safety Evenings by www.trendmicro.com on an ongoing basis.
Collection of children by people other than named guardians	Pre- School: written consent from parents via email/text or phone call logged by preschool staff. Primary School: Principal and class teacher notified in advance of any change to normal collection of a child.
Gates in all areas to be locked	Check each time before going outdoors
Pedestrian gate	Padlocked while children are outside.
Security Doors giving access to the school.	Security doors are locked throughout the day and access to the building is only through these doors. The school administrator and teaching staff only, may give access to the school during school hours.

3. CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As required by the Children's First Act 2015 and children first national guidance for protection and welfare of children 2017, the following safeguarding policies and procedures are in place:

- Procedure to maintain a list of mandated persons under the Children First Act, 2015.
- A Relevant Person has been appointed.
- A designated liaison person and deputy have been appointed.
- Child Protection and Welfare reporting procedure
- 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 complete the Tusla certified child protection course- Children First E-Learning Programme and Management attend Child Protection Training offered by Cork City Childcare.
- Staffs have access to regular supervision and support in line the service policy.
- Complaints policy
- Policy for managing accidents and incidents
- Social media managing policy.

4. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

- Rockboro Preschool recognise that the implementation is an on-going process. Our service is committed to the implementation for 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 also be made available to Tusla, if requested.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

For further information on this statement, contact the relevant person:

Designated Liaison Person: Susan Dwane School Principal 021 4314324 reception@rockboroschool.ie	Deputy Designated Liaison Person Maira Heffernan Preschool Manager 021 4314324 preschool@rockboroschool.ie
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