



Clann Aire

A Child Safeguarding Statement

Nature of Service and Principles to safeguard children from harm:

This is a statement for all parent/guardian, childcare educators, students/volunteers and Families of children attending all our services. It is very important that you read and understand this statement.

The Management and Early Years Educators working in Clann Aire have committed to implementing and reviewing our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures in request of safeguarding the children in our care.

We will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures every two years or sooner, if necessary, due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

We aspire to the provision of high-quality childcare by providing the children with a safe and trusting environment. We believe that the protection and welfare of each child is of paramount importance. We believe every child has the right to be protected and treated with respect.

Through our curriculum which is called Aistear, which is incorporated into our daily routine, we encourage children in our care to become confident, independent and good decision makers. We listen to the children and respect their views and opinions. We celebrate difference and treat all children equally by giving them all the same opportunities.

We also value and highly regard the input of all parents as we regard them as the primary carers. We work in partnership with all parents.

We are committed to complying with all National Legislation and Policy.

(Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and current legislation such as the Children First Act 2015, Childcare Act 1991, Protections for persons reporting Child Abuse Act 199 and the National Vetting Bureau Act 2012).

We are a community Creche that serves the immediate and wider community of Clondrohid. We care for children from 6 months to 13 years of age. We have 7 working rooms.

Caterpillar Room; Babies up to approximately 14 months old.

Ladybird Room; Children from 14 months to 24 months approx.

Butterfly Room; Children from 2 years to approximately 3 years.

Curious Cubs; sessional preschool room, children from 2.7 years - 5 years.

Busy Bears; Full day care Junior Pre-School room, children from 2 -4 years.

Busy Bees; Full day care senior Pre-School room, children from 3 years to 5 years.

After School Room; School Age childcare from 4 years to 13 years.

Number of Employees currently within our service;

1 centre Manager,

1 Full day care manager and creche supervisor,

1 ECCE Manager and administration assistant,

1 After School co-ordinator,

21 Educators,

4 staff in our kitchen and housekeeping,

1 maintenance person.

We operate for 49 weeks per year. We offer full day-care: Part-time care and sessional ECCE only.

Our opening hours are from 8:00am-6:00pm Monday-Friday.

All our educators' photos, qualifications and length of service with us are on display in the lobby.

Child Paths is a digital childcare package we use to record and document each child's personal information. Each room has their own tablet and through this we record your child's daily routine. It's a communication tool for parents as well, with an app for the parents to access. General information and photographs are sent through the app of your child throughout their day. You will get more information about this when your child begins with us.

We offer different schemes within our services; these schemes are in place to help families to make childcare more affordable. Some of the schemes we currently offer are ECCE, AIM and NCS. AIM is a scheme we offer to children that may require some additional support that are attending our ECCE sessions. This scheme is available to children from 3 years of age. Please ask in the office for further information about any of the above schemes.

Our Designated Liaison Person is:
Denise Cronin- Graduate Lead Educator
Contact Details; 026 43344 or 085 1633159

Our Deputy Liaison Person is:
Niamh Casey- Full daycare Manager and Creche Supervisor
Contact details; 026 43344 or 085 1633159

Mandated Persons:

All our Educators working directly with the children are mandated persons and under the Children First Act 2015. Mandated persons have statutory obligation to report concerns which meet or exceed a particular threshold and to cooperate with Tusla in the assessment of mandated reports, where requested to do so.

Risk Assessment:

We have carried out a risk assessment of any potential for harm while availing of our services. The designated liaison person- Denise Cronin and our Health and Safety officer- Amy Toomey, are responsible for managing this risk. It is a work in progress as new risks are identified by our educators and documents will be amended and updated once new risks are identified. We have highlighted some of the risks we identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
Continual Professional development- CPD	Identify the areas of training needed and if they are available through local networks we will register for training. We also run inhouse training during the year for more tailored training.
Recruitment Procedure	We have a Recruitment Policy in place and procedures to follow for recruitment. These procedures are always followed when a position becomes available. All our employees are Garda vetted before they are employed by our organisation
Staff Recruitment in line with minimum requirements and the DCYA list of qualifications	By following the guidelines in our recruitment policy and procedures all our employees are adequately qualified for the positions held.
Adult Child Ratios	The correct adult/child ratios are always adhered to within all our rooms.
Students and Volunteers	Students are always welcome to our centre. We carry out our own reference check as well as vetting for students over 18 years and we always liaise with the college supervisors. Students receive Induction Training when coming to Clann Aire. They are given a Students Handbook containing some of our Policies and Procedures. Our Guiding principles on safeguarding children is in this handbook and students are told from the beginning of their work experience that at NO time are they to be alone with a child. They must be always supervised by our educators even when they are nappy changing. We welcome both male and female students.
Outings	We have an Outings Policy in place and complied a checklist for outings, and this is completed each time before an outing takes place.
Child drop off and collection	We will only hand over your child to authorised persons for collection. There is a section on your child's registration form where the parents give us the names of the people authorised to collect their child.
Access to the service	Authorised persons either buzz the door of the room they require, or they go to the door of the room where the child is they are collecting. Once the person collecting the child is on the list of authorised users, the child is released into their care

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, Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. In addition to the procedures listed in our Risk Assessment and the following procedures, support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services,

- Management of an allegation of abuse or misconduct against a Practitioner/student/volunteers of a child availing of our services
- Procedure for reporting Child Protection or Welfare concerns to Tusla
- Reporting procedure for dealing with disclosures, concerns or allegations of child abuse
- Code of behaviour for all Employees of Clann Aire
- Procedure for Mandated Persons and DLPs: In how to make a report to Tusla and how the communication of mandated persons reports to the DLP and the storage of those records.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person

All the procedures listed above are available on request.

Implementation

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

Training

Introduction to children's first eLearning will be done on a yearly basis during work hours if possible. (this will be completed every 2 years if you have the in-person training with Cork County Childcare completed).

Mandated person's eLearning needs to be completed on a yearly basis during work hours if possible.

In person always children first child safeguarding awareness training is to be completed every 5 years with Cork County Childcare.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be revised in April 2025 or sooner, if necessary, due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

Signed; Assist. Manager 20/06/25 Manager

Date reviewed; June 2025

For Queries contact:

Relevant Person under the Children's First Act 2015