



Clann Aire

Risk Management Policy

Policy Statement:

We are committed to safeguarding children, staff, parents and all visitors to our centre.

We have policies, procedures and practices in place to ensure that we are providing a safe place for children, staff, parents and visitors within our service.

The Management & Staff of Clann Aire are committed to complying with our legal obligations as well as the measures taken to protect against danger, by conducting a Risk Assessment of our Centre that will guide everyday best practice.

Principle:

This Policy is underwritten by the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and Tusla's Quality and Regulatory Framework, , The Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act (2005).

Risk is a part of everyday life in the early childhood setting and is something our Practitioners are well accustomed to responding too. For example, all our Practitioners ensure they have considered all potential hazards that may occur on an outing or during children's play activities. Undertaking a risk assessment leads to a safer environment for children, staff and parents by assessing any potential risks for the safety of the children attending our service, and identifying the steps taken to either eliminate or mitigate those risks.

This does involve some time and care to consider how it applies to each environment as there is no standard one size fits all approach. Each room in this building has different age groups therefore the level of risk differs in each room.

By having a risk management policy, it can act as a practical tool for reducing accidents and ill-health at work.

Procedure for assessing and managing risk.

- **Develop a risk management policy.** This will help to focus on the importance of having a risk management policy. It will outline how our childcare practitioners make checks and identify potential hazards.
- **Identify potential hazards or risk.** Our childcare practitioners take time to check for any potential hazards and risk with the service and within the outside area available to the children. They identify the area being assessed and the potential hazard or risk.
- **Assessing the risk.** The childcare practitioner will need to think about the potential risk or hazard and the controls that are already in place to lower the risk including policies, procedures, training, guidelines, etc. The childcare practitioners need to rate the level of the risk to determine the likelihood of the risk occurring.
- **Control measures.** The childcare practitioners need to decide what control measures can be put in place to lower the risk level. There are some options that can help, which include.
 - to avoid the risk and not go ahead with the activity
 - prevent the risk with an action to reduce the level of the risk
 - minimise the risk with an action to reduce the consequence of the risk
 - accept the risk, if the cost of the prevention of the risk is greater than the likelihood of the risk, Clann Aire may decide to accept the risk
 - transfer the risk or transfer the responsibility of the risk to another body i.e. having adequate insurance cover.

- **Monitor risk.** Childcare practitioners will constantly monitor and review the risk assessments. This will ensure the control measures are sufficient.

This policy was adopted by Clondrohid Community Crèche Pre-School & After School Services.

Signed by: Harriet Murray on behalf of Management (Manager)

Date: 02/09/2024

Review Date: September 2024