



Child Safeguarding Statement

Our service and the principles to safeguard children from harm

iScoil is an online learning service offering young people the opportunity to re-engage with education, achieve recognised certification and access further education, training and employment opportunities. We support young people to achieve their full potential by providing them with innovative personalised learning plans using digital technologies. The iScoil model is based on principles of inclusivity, equality and a non-judgmental approach.

iScoil values and encourages the participation of children in a safe online learning environment. We are committed to safeguarding the dignity and rights of children. All iScoil personnel have a responsibility to safeguard children in line with the provisions of the iScoil child safeguarding policy. The welfare and safety of children in both the online and offline environments is paramount in the work of iScoil, regardless of all other considerations.

Risk Assessment

iScoil has completed a risk assessment of the potential harm to young people who are engaged with our service, and we maintain a risk register. This register identifies risks and lists the policies, procedures and practices in place to help reduce and eliminate these risks. Harm in this context is related to child protection and welfare concerns including online bullying, inappropriate behaviour of staff, neglect, emotional, physical or sexual abuse, or the inappropriate use of data.

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

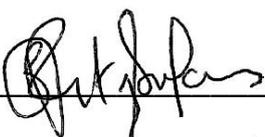
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of staff to work with young people;
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against staff;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to statutory authorities;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the service who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a Designated Liaison Person;

All procedures listed are available upon request.

Implementation

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

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by March 2020 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: 

Brian Fitzsimons
iScoil CEO