



Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services Ltd.

Child Safeguarding Statement

- 1. Name of Service: Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services Ltd.**
- 2. The services we provide are:**

Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services Ltd is a community-based youth work organisation operating an Integrated Youth Service Model providing services to young people within the region of Cloyne Diocesan. The services are based in 9 locations in buildings such as youth centres, community houses and community facilities. The services we provide are as follows:

- Garda Youth Diversion Programme is based in Mallow, Charleville, Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Midleton and Cobh.
- Learning Training Initiatives are based in Macroom, Mallow and Midleton.
- Community drugs Workers are based in Mallow, Mitchelstown, Fermoy and Macroom
- Ministry Youth Worker is based in Mallow
- Counselling services are based in Mallow, Fermoy, Mitchelstown.
- Special Project for Youth is based in Mallow, Mitchelstown, Fermoy, Midleton. This project also supports 5 Youth Clubs.
- Creative Community Alternatives Projects also operate around the region.

3. Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm:

Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services Ltd, service is committed to the principles laid out in Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017. These are:

- The safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility.
- The best interests of the child should be paramount.
- The overall aim in all dealings with children and their families is to intervene proportionately to support families to keep children safe from harm.
- Interventions by the State should build on existing strengths and protective factors in the family.
- Early intervention is key to getting better outcomes. Where it is necessary for the State to intervene to keep children safe, the minimum intervention necessary should be used.
- Children should only be separated from parents/carers when alternative means of protecting them have been exhausted.
- Children have a right to be heard, listened to and taken seriously. Taking account of their age and understanding, they should be consulted and involved in all matters and decisions that may affect their lives.
- Parents/carers have a right to respect, and should be consulted and involved in matters that concern their family.
- A proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents/carers and families.
- Child protection is a multiagency, multidisciplinary activity. Agencies and professionals must work together in the interests of the children.

4. Risk assessment of potential harm to children whilst availing of our services:

Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services Ltd has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and there is a range of policies and procedures in place to assess and manage the risks identified.

5. 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 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 services.

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers by a child while availing of our service.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children.
- 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 Tusla.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of mandated persons.

All procedures listed are available on request.

6. Implementation:

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 services. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed by 11th March 2020 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: _____ C.E.O.
Cloyne Diocesan Youth Services Ltd

For further details contact:

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