



Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Name of service being provided:

Musical Theatre Academy Nenagh

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:

Here at Musical Theatre Academy Nenagh we provide the following services to children/young people: dance classes, singing & acting classes, acro classes, competitions and performances.

We believe the following:

1. Our priority to ensure the welfare and safety of every child and young person who attends our service is paramount.
2. Our guiding principles and procedures to safeguard children and young people are underpinned by *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*, *Child Care Act 1991*, *Protections for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998* and the *National Vetting Bureau Act 2012*.
3. All children and young people have an equal right to attend a service that respects them as individuals and encourages them to reach their potential, regardless of their gender, social or ethnic background, family status, sexual orientation, religion or disability.
4. We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our service, including the rights to be kept safe, protected from harm, listened to and heard.
5. Our guiding principles apply to everyone in our organisation.
6. Workers must conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of our organisation.

Our Designated Liaison Person is: Máire Long

Contact Details: 087 650 90 94

3. Risk assessment:

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services including the area of online safety when accessing the internet. Below is a list of the areas of risks identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1	The risk of harm to a child using the internet whilst availing of our services	Children are not permitted to use their phones whilst availing of our services. Procedure for Child protection & internet
2	Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while in the hall	Children under 12 must always be supervised outside of the dance hall (toilets, foyer, coffee dock). Code of Behaviour for Staff and Volunteers Reporting procedure. Procedure for training staff and volunteers. Procedure for the safe supervision of children.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
3	Risk of harm from peer-to-peer abuse	Anti-bullying procedure Reporting procedure Procedure for training of staff and volunteers Procedure for sharing information with parents and children Code of Behaviour for Children and Young People Procedure for the safe supervision of children
4	Risk of harm to a child if unsupervised during collection time	Procedure to ensure safe collection arrangements? Code of Behaviour for staff and volunteers Procedure for training staff and volunteers
6	Risk of harm to a child from a staff/volunteer	Recruitment procedure Reporting procedure Procedure for dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers Code of Behaviour for Staff and Volunteers Procedure for the training for staff and volunteers

4. Procedures:

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, 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 management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/ volunteers of a child 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 the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person

All procedures listed are available upon request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing 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 in two years time (May 2023) or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed: 

(Provider of the Relevant Service)
Stephanie Browne

For queries, please contact: Máire Long
Contact details: 087 650 90 94
Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.