

Leinster Gliding Centre

Child Safeguarding Statement

- 1. Name of service being provided:** Flying training in gliders
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- 2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm**
(brief outline of what our service is, what we do and our commitment to safeguard children):

We provide the following services/activities to children and young people:
An open and friendly environment for anyone wishing to learn gliding.

We believe that:

1. Our priority to ensure the welfare and safety of every child and young person who attends our club is paramount.
2. Our guiding principles and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and we will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding procedures every two years.
3. All children and young people have an equal right to participate in activities that respect them as individuals and encourage them to reach their potential, regardless of their background.
4. We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our club, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to and heard.
5. Our guiding principles apply to everyone in our organisation.
6. Volunteers must conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of our organisation.

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 risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	Unsupervised children on the active airfield	All visitors are supervised. All club members are trained on safety issues before their first flight, and frequently during their first three months' membership. All child members are accompanied by their parent or guardian, who is also trained in safety procedures. Child members are usually aged 14 and over.
2	Adult members may physically hurt, injure or bully children	There are always other club members nearby – gliding by its nature requires many support personnel. The club policy states that no member should be alone with a young person at any time on the ground.
3	Adult members may give children alcohol, drugs or other noxious substance	All alcohol and drugs are forbidden for all members, and we have no history of any abuse in the past
4	Instructors may fail to appreciate that children learn the physical handling of flight controls more quickly than they will learn concepts, judgement and decision-making	All instructors are briefed on this during their training course, and reminded annually of the need to take more care with instruction of children
5	Adult members may engage in sexual abuse	Always other club members nearby – gliding by its nature requires many support personnel. The club policy states that no member should be alone with a young person at any time on the ground.
6	Adult members may cause mental suffering by taunting or unnecessarily shouting at children	The practice of shouting is discouraged, and if it occurs the person involved is expected afterwards to approach the member who was shouted at, to explain the need for quick action on that occasion. Instructors and duty pilots are reminded annually to be careful not to shout at children.
7	Instructors may cause mental suffering by subjecting children to undue criticism, or putting them under unreasonable pressure to perform complicated exercises for which they are not ready	All instructors are briefed on this during their training course, and reminded annually of the need to take more care with instruction of children.
8	Children may access unsuitable material on the internet	There are no internet facilities for children on the airfield.

4. 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:

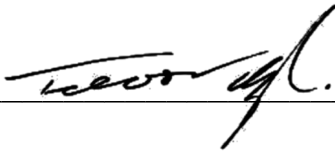
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training 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 on 8th February 2024 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:  _____

For queries, please contact Breno Gomes, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015. Contact details: breno.gomes@gmail.com

Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 2: Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm: Describe the nature of your services and specify the principles that you will observe to keep children safe from harm while they are availing of your service.

Section 3: Risk assessment: *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)* provides additional guidance on carrying out the risk assessment component of your Child Safeguarding Statement.

Section 4: Procedures: As this is only a sample list, you will need to add to this list as appropriate, based on the outcome of your risk assessment. Please see also Tusla's *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*.

Section 5: Implementation: At a minimum, reviews must be carried out every 24 months. The provider is the individual with overall responsibility for the organisation. This may be the chief executive officer, chairperson of a board of management, owner/operator, etc.

Relevant Person: You should include the name and contact details of the Relevant Persons, who are the first point of contact regarding your Child Safeguarding Statement.