



Child Safeguarding Statement

Section 1 – Club information.

Leinster Gliding Centre is an established centre of excellence for gliding in Ireland, and is a Designated Training Organisation with the Irish Aviation Authority for glider pilot training.

We provide an open and friendly environment for children, young people and adults wishing to learn gliding.

Club details:

- Name: Leinster Gliding Centre
- Sport: Gliding
- Location: Swordlestown North, Naas, Co Kildare, W91 VN52
- Size: 60
- Activities: training, local soaring and cross country

Section 2 - Principles to safeguard children from harm.

Leinster Gliding Centre is committed to safeguarding children and young people and by working under the guidance of our Organisation Safeguarding Policies our instructors, volunteers and members, working with our young people, throughout the organisation, seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop within our sport. The following set of principles should be adhered to:

- **Importance of childhood** - The importance of childhood should be understood and valued by everyone involved in sport.
- **Needs of the child** - All children's sport experiences should be guided by what is best for children. This means that adults should have a basic understanding of the emotional, physical, and personal needs of young people.
- **Integrity in relationships** - Adults interacting with children in sport are in a position of trust and influence. They should always ensure that children are treated with integrity and respect, and the self-esteem of young people is enhanced.
- **Fair Play** - All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. The principles of fair play should always be emphasised, and organisers and instructors should give clear guidelines regarding acceptable standards of behaviour.
- **Quality atmosphere & ethos** - Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive, and encouraging atmosphere.
- **Competition** - Competition is an essential element of sport and should be encouraged in an age-appropriate manner. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place.
- **Equality** - All children should be valued and treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of ability, age, gender, religion, social and ethnic background, or political persuasion.

Section 3 - Risk Assessment

This Leinster Gliding Centre's written Risk Assessment document indicates the areas of potential risk of harm, the likelihood of the risk occurring, and gives the required policy, guidance or process documents require to alleviate these risks. The list of risks identified and procedures to manage these risks are contained in the following categories:

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
<p>Club and Instructor Practices</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of Instructor qualification. 2. Supervision issues. 3. Unauthorised photography & recording activities. 4. Behavioural Issues. 5. Lack of gender balance amongst coaches. 6. No guidance for travelling & away trips. 7. Lack of adherence with misc. procedures in Safeguarding policy. 	<p>Instructor education policy/Recruitment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. policy. 2. Supervision policy/Instructor education policy. 3. Photography & Use of Images policy. 4. Code of Conduct/Safeguarding1/ Complaints & Disciplinary policy. 5. Coach education policy/Supervision policy. 6. Travel/Away trip policy/Child Safeguarding Training. 7. Safeguarding Policy/Complaints & disciplinary policy.
<p>Complaints & Discipline</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness of a Complaints & Disciplinary policy. 2. Difficulty in raising an issue by young person and/or parent or guardian. 3. Complaints not being dealt with seriously. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy/Communications procedure. 2. Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy/Communications procedure. 3. Complaints & Disciplinary procedure/policy.
<p>Reporting Procedures</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of knowledge of organisational & statutory reporting procedures 2. No Designated Liaison Person appointed. 3. Concerns of abuse or harm not reported. 4. Not clear who young person should talk to or report to. 	<p>Reporting procedures/policy/Instructor</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education policy/Code of conduct/Behaviour. Reporting procedures/policy. 2. Reporting procedures/policy/Child 3. Safeguarding 1 Training. 4. Designated Liaison Person.
<p>Use of Facilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exit from airfield or clubhouse without notifying responsible adult. 2. Photography, filming or recording in prohibited areas. 3. Missing or found young person on site. 4. Young person alone anywhere on the premises or alone with unauthorised adult 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supervision policy/Instructor Education. 2. Supervision policy/Instructor Education. 3. Photography policy and use of devices in private zones. 4. Missing or found child policy. 5. Safeguarding policy.

<p>Recruitment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruitment of inappropriate people. 2. Lack of clarity on roles. 3. Unqualified or untrained people in role. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruitment policy. 2. Recruitment policy. 3. Recruitment policy.
<p>Communications</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of awareness of ‘risk of harm’ with members and visitors. 2. No communication of Child Safeguarding Statement of Code of Behaviour to members of visitors. 3. Unauthorised photography and recording of activities. 4. Inappropriate use of social media and communications by under 18’s. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child Safeguarding Statement / Training Policy. Child Safeguarding Statement (display)/Code of Behaviour (distribute). 2. Photography and Use of images policy 3. Communications policy/Code of conduct. 4. Social media policy
<p>General Risk of Harm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harm not being recognised. 2. Harm caused by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Child to Child. b. Coach to Child. c. Volunteer to Child. d. Member to Child. e. Visitor to Child. 3. General behavioural issues. 4. Issues of Bullying. 5. Vetting of staff/volunteers. 6. Issues of Online Safety 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safeguarding policy/Child Safeguarding Training. 2. Safeguarding policy/Child Safeguarding Training. 3. Code of Conduct. 4. Anti-Bullying policy. 5. Safe Recruitment policy/Vetting policy. 6. Social Media/Online Safety policy.

The Risk Assessment was undertaken on **September 2024**.

Section 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 our Risk Assessment document described above, there are further procedures that support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our activities.

Leinster Gliding Centre has the following procedures in place as part of our Safeguarding Policies:

- Procedures for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by instructors or volunteers or members against a child availing of our activities.



- Procedures for the safe recruitment of instructors and volunteers to work with children in our activities.
- Procedures for access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

Please note that all procedures listed are available on request.

The Relevant Person for Leinster Gliding Centre is **Heather McHugh**.

Section 5 – Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our Club 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 activities.

Please note the following:

- That all instructors, volunteers and members have been furnished with a copy of this statement.
- This statement is available to parents/guardians, the Agency, and members of the public on request.
- This statement will be displayed in a prominent place by Leinster Gliding Centre. This

Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on **(September 2025)**

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trevor McHugh'.

Date: 28 Dec 2024

(On behalf of Leinster Gliding Centre)

Name: Trevor McHugh

Phone no:

For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact **Heather McHugh**.