



Citywise Education Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm

Citywise Education is a community and voluntary organisation providing educational support to young people living in disadvantaged community environments. Recognising the lead role of schools in learning, Citywise Education supports that work while paying attention to other aspects of education, including the emotional, social and personal development of the whole person. The Board of Management recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of Citywise Education and must be reflected in all its policies, procedures, practices, and activities.

2. Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. See appendix (i) for a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

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 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 on or before 30th August 2026, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers. For queries, please contact Daire Hennessy, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of Citywise Education

Signature 1

Date 14/09/23

Signature 2



Appendix (i):

Examples of Risks of Harm

- Risk of harm not being recognised by Citywise Education personnel
- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by Citywise Education personnel
- Risk of child being harmed in the centre/on an outing
- Risk of child being harmed in Citywise Education by another child
- Risk of child being harmed in Citywise Education by volunteer or visitor to the centre.
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in out of centre activities e.g. school trip, swimming lessons
- Risk of harm due to bullying of child
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children in Citywise Education
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm due to children inappropriately accessing/using computers, social media, phones and other devices while at Citywise Education
- Risk of harm to children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) who have particular vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm to child while a child is receiving care (Mentoring, 1st Aid)
- Risk of harm due to inadequate code of behaviour
- Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching, counselling, mentoring situation
- Risk of harm caused by member of Citywise Education personnel communicating with young people in an appropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member of Citywise Education personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

Examples of Procedures to address risks of harm

- All Citywise Education personnel are provided with a copy of our *Child Safeguarding Statement* and adhere to the company procedures.



- Citywise Education personnel are required to adhere to the *Child Protection Policy* and all staff are required to adhere to the *Children First Act 2015*
- Citywise Education implements an Anti-Bullying Policy which fully adheres to the requirements of the *Department of Education's Anti-Bullying Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools*
- Citywise Education has supervision policies in place for activities which take place within the centre.
- Citywise Education has in place a policy and clear procedures in respect of outings
- Citywise Education has a Health and safety policy
- Citywise Education adheres to its Garda Vetting policy in relation to the recruitment of staff and volunteers
- Citywise Education has a code of conduct for all staff
- Citywise Education has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of medication to children and young people
- Citywise Education –
 - Has provided each member of staff with a copy of the it's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new staff are provided with a copy of the it's Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages, and mandates where relevant, staff to avail of current training
 - Encourages board of management members to avail of relevant training
 - Maintains records of all staff and board member training
- Citywise Education has in place a policy and procedures for the administration of First Aid
- Citywise Education has in place a code of behaviour for young people
- Citywise Education has in place an ICT policy in respect of usage of ICT by young people
- Citywise Education has in place a Critical Incident Management Plan
- Citywise Education has in place a policy that discusses the procedures for one-to-one teaching and mentoring activities