

Múin After-School

Child Safeguarding Statement Updated: June
2022

Section One- Service Details

Service Type: After-School Care

Company Name: Múin Education Ltd

Address: Cluain Ard, Monacnapa, Blarney, Co Cork

Service Name: Múin After-School

Operational Hours: 1.30pm - 6.00pm

Ages the service caters for: 4-14years

Services Provided: Collection from Primary school, after school care and snacks

Registered Provider: Kate Gaffney

Relevant Person: Sylvia Fahy

D.L.P Kate Gaffney

Contact Details:info@thegreenroomscork.com

Section Two- Nature of Service & Principles to Safeguard Children from Harm

Múin After-School and all its services is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can play, learn, and develop. We are committed to child-centred practice in all our work with children and to full compliance with Children First and our Duty of Care. We recognise the right of children to be protected from harm, treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration in matters that affect them. Muin after school supports the development of children and young people's understanding of health and safety through example setting, explanations, modelling and age-appropriate health and wellbeing activities.

All children and young people feel valued and are free from discrimination or prejudice

We are committed to facilitating the Voice of the Child in line with the government strategy on Children and Young Peoples Involvement in Decision Making and we will facilitate capacity building, open communication, resilience and skill development through age-appropriate activities, workshops and modelling following the 'VOICE' model of Participation. Children are empowered through a variety of consultation methods and a Children's Decision-Making Group is in place.

Designated Liaison Person:

Kate Gaffney: info@thegreenroomscork.com

Child Safeguarding Officer/Relevant Person

Sylvia Fahy Tel: 086-3207284 Email: info@thegreenroomscork.co

Section Three

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

In accordance with the Children First 2015 Act, we have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. This includes the area of online safety whilst accessing the internet.

Harm to a child is *“assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child’s health, development or welfare, or sexual abuse of the child, whether caused by a single act, omission or circumstance or a series or combination of acts, omissions or circumstances, or otherwise”* (Children First Act 2015)

Table 1 below details the potential risks identified, the procedures that are in place to mitigate risk and the likelihood of occurrence (risk), with the control measures in place.

Table 1 Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

Risk of harm identified	Harm Mitigation Procedure/Policy	In Place	Risk of occurrence with Procedure/Policy in Place	Person Responsible	Date Completed/ Amended
1. Risk of harm to a child by a visitor to the service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for monitoring Visitors 	Yes	Medium	Room Leader	Daily
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for door security 	Yes			At Regular intervals during each session
2. Risk of harm to a child by a staff member, volunteer/student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for safe selection and recruiting of staff 	Yes	Medium	Manager	Upon recruitment or placement of new staff
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for placement of volunteers/students 	Yes		Manager	April 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific Code of behaviour for staff and volunteers 	Yes		Manager	April 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy/Procedure for complaints 	Yes		Manager	June 2022
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on managing behaviour 	Yes		Manager	June 2022
3. Risk of harm to a child by a staff member/volunteer/student/stranger/peer during outings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for outings 	Yes	Low	Manager	On all outings without exception

Risk of harm identified	Harm Mitigation Procedure/Policy	In Place	Risk of occurrence with Procedure/Policy in Place	Person Responsible	Date Completed/amended
<p>4. Risk of harm to a child through the unauthorised use of photography</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental permission document for the taking of and use of photographs • Policy on the use of personal digital devices by staff and children • Policy on use of photographs of children • Outings procedure 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Manager/Room Leader</p>	<p>Upon Registration of each child</p> <p>April 2022</p> <p>April 2022</p> <p>On all outings</p>
<p>5. Risk of harm to a child through social media/internet use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on the use of personal digital devices by staff and children. • Policy on use of service digital devices by staff and children 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Manager/Room Leader</p>	<p>April 2022</p> <p>June 2022</p>

Risk of harm identified	Harm Mitigation Procedure/Policy	In Place	Risk of occurrence with Procedure/Policy in Place	Person Responsible	Date Completed/amended
6. Risk of harm to a child through bullying by a peer or older child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on bullying • Policy on managing behaviour 	Yes Yes	Medium	Manager	June 2022
7. Risk of harm to a child after unauthorised exit from the service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for door security • Policy on staff to child ratio 	Yes Yes	Low	Manager/Room Leader	Daily April 2022
8. Risk of harm to a child during Chaperone transportation to after-school from the child's school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for Chaperones • Drop off and collection policy 	Yes Yes	Low	Chaperone/ Manager	Daily 2022 June 2022
9. Risk of harm to a child during a bathroom break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on bathroom breaks 	No	Low	Manager	By September 2022
10. Risk of harm to a child by an unauthorised Intruder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical Incident Plan • Emergency Preparedness Plan for Unauthorised Access/Intruder • Door Security Procedure • Drop off and collection Policy 	Yes Yes Yes Yes	Medium	Manager Manager Room Leader/Manager Chaperone/Room Leader	June 2022 June 2022 April 2022 June 2022

Section Four – Procedures

This child safeguarding Statement has been compiled in line with the requirements of 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 highlighted in the risk assessment table, we have the following additional procedures that support our commitment to safeguarding the children whilst they are attending our service:

All Procedures listed are available on request

- Having a safe selection and recruitment of staff procedure
- Procedure for placement of volunteers/students
- Having procedures for managing/supervising employees, students, and volunteers.
- Having a code of behaviour for management, employees, students, and volunteers.
- Having a procedure to report and respond to accidents and incidents
- Having a Critical Incident Plan
- Having a Critical Incident Management Team
- Having Emergency Preparedness Plans
- Having a procedure to respond to complaints
- Having a procedure to respond to allegations of abuse and neglect made against staff members.
- Procedure for the provision of staff training in safeguarding and the identification of an Occurrence of Harm
- Procedure for responding to child protection or welfare concerns when a referral is not made to TUSLA
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to TUSLA
- Procedure for maintaining a list of Mandated persons in the service
- Procedure for appointing a Relevant Person (first point of contact for safeguarding policy)
- Procedure for appointing a Designated Liaison Person
- Procedure for Signposting/Displaying contact details of DLP and Relevant Person

Additional Safeguarding steps

- Appointed a Designated Liaison Person (DLP) responsible for managing and coordinating all child protection concerns. This Person is clearly Identifiable to all staff and service users
- Appointed a Child Safeguarding Officer(CSO) responsible for safeguarding of children on site and management of child protection concerns. This person is clearly identified to all staff and service users
- Appointed a Relevant Person responsible for all matters pertaining to this Safeguarding Statement
- All staff in contact with children will complete the Children First programme
- Ensure that DLP's and CSO's undertake additional training relevant to their role in child protection and the level of responsibility that they hold in relation to the same
- Provide induction training on information pertaining to Child Protection and Welfare Policies to all staff, volunteers, students, owners and directors
- Provide supervision and support for staff and volunteers in contact with children
- Share information pertaining to Child Protection and Welfare Policies with families and children

Recognising and Reporting Child Protection Concerns

If staff suspect there is a risk of a child being harmed at home due to visible signs of injury, or if a child has disclosed same to staff, the manager will be notified immediately. The concern or disclosure will be documented and the procedure for notifying TUSLA will be followed (**Procedure for Responding to a Child Protection or Welfare Concern**)

Staff will be cognisant of the need to look out for signs of abuse to children within the service and all staff will have completed Tusla's Children First programme and will have received instruction on harm identification. The Relevant Person will have completed Child Safeguarding 1 and 2. The Designated Liaison Person will have completed Child Safeguarding 1, 2 and 3.

Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to implement and uphold this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while they are in our care.

This Statement will be reviewed in June 2023 or as soon as there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

This statement has been published on the service website and is displayed in a prominent place on the premises. It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with the service. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians upon request. A copy of this statement will be made available to Túsla and members of the public, by request.

Provider Kate Gaffney

For Queries, Please Contact Sylvia Fahy at info@thegreenroomscork.com

(Appointed **Relevant Person** under the Children First Act 2015)