

Child Safeguarding Statement

This Child Safeguarding Statement provides an overview of the measures that Localise has in place to ensure that children participating in our programmes are protected from harm.

Nature Of Service & Principles To Safeguard Children From Harm:

Localise Youth Volunteering enables young people aged 11 – 18 to make a difference in their community by answering the call to help others. Through our programmes young people experience the power of giving back as they directly benefit those in need.

Localise has as its foremost priority the welfare and safety of its youth participants. We are committed to providing a safe environment for young people enabling them through their volunteer work to care in their community. Localise has a number of procedures in place designed to safeguard every youth participant involved in our programmes. Our staff and adult volunteers endeavor to ensure that children and young people are protected and kept safe from harm while taking part in any of the Localise Programmes.

Safe practice in our work is essential and Localise have the following procedures and guidelines for good practice, which govern our work:

- Mandatory Garda Vetting and Child Protection Training for all Localise personnel and adult volunteers.
- Localise Code of Good Youth Work Practice which applies to all Localise personnel and adult volunteers.
- Localise Health and Safety Policy
- Localise Volunteer's Charter.
- Localise Community Group's Affiliation Policy.

Risk Assessment:

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. (Available upon request).

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.

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.