

Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

Katarzyna Slabon

Introduction

Name: Katarzyna Slabon

Company: Sound Magic Ireland

Sound Magic Ireland provides mindful sound experiences, workshops, and training for children and young people across mainstream primary and secondary schools, as well as special education settings. Our work involves interactive sound sessions, teacher training, and sensory-based engagement, using instruments such as singing bowls, monochords, and sound chairs to support emotional regulation and well-being. We are committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all children who engage in our programs.

Guiding Principles Declaration

We are fully committed to safeguarding children and young people in line with Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017). We pledge to:

- Comply with all national legislation and best practice guidelines for child safeguarding.
- Implement and regularly review our child safeguarding procedures to ensure they remain effective and up-to-date.
- Provide clear policies for parents, guardians, and staff to ensure transparency in how we protect children.

Categories of Abuse and How They May Be Recognized

As outlined in Children First National Guidance (2017, Chapter 2, pp. 7-11), child abuse falls into four main categories:

1. Neglect - Persistent failure to meet a child's basic needs, including food, shelter, emotional support, or supervision.
2. Emotional Abuse - Persistent emotional ill-treatment that affects a child's self-esteem and

development.

3. Physical Abuse - Deliberate injury or harm to a child, such as hitting, burning, or shaking.

4. Sexual Abuse - Forcing or enticing a child into sexual activities, whether physical or non-contact.

Procedure for Reporting Child Safeguarding Concerns

All safeguarding concerns must be reported to Tusla (Child and Family Agency) and, where necessary, An Garda Síochána.

- Who to Contact: Tusla Designated Liaison Person (DLP) or An Garda Síochána if a child is at immediate risk.
- What to Include in the Report: Child's details, nature of concern, any evidence or disclosures.
- How Parents Will Be Informed: Parents/guardians will be informed unless doing so would place the child at further risk.

Immediate Risk of Harm to a Child

If a child is at immediate risk of harm:

- Contact Tusla immediately in my region.
- Contact An Garda Síochána at the local station if necessary.
- Complete a Standard Report Form (SRF) for Tusla.

Review & Compliance

I commit to reviewing this policy annually and updating procedures in line with changes to Children First National Guidance and Tusla recommendations.

Contact for Safeguarding Concerns

- Tusla Child and Family Agency - [Local Contact Details]
- An Garda Síochána - [Local Garda Station Contact]
- Designated Liaison Person (DLP) in Partner Schools - [Contact Details]

This document ensures compliance with Children First National Guidance (2017) and outlines my commitment to child protection, safeguarding, and ethical facilitation in all my work with children and

young people across mainstream and special schools.