



CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Crosscare is the social support agency of the Archdiocese of Dublin providing services where all people have the opportunity to fulfil their potential and providing innovative and relevant services to those most in need. Crosscare serves those who are most in need in our society regardless of their race, nationality, religion, beliefs, values or sexual identity.

Children, families and young people
 SERVICES INCLUDE – Residential care, Family Hub, aftercare support, counselling, developmental youth work, youth information services, drug prevention, education, creative activities – drama,

outdoor learning, art, writing, Garda Youth Diversion Projects, youth clubs, Summer projects and volunteers support and training.

Adults
 SERVICES INCLUDE – Information and advocacy services, drug and alcohol supports including counselling, homeless accommodation and settlement services, mental health supports, counselling services, drop-in and outreach, training.

Communities
 SERVICES INCLUDE – Food banks, community cafes, community college,

shared community facilities, respite, education and training, supports for: people with disabilities, refugees, migrants, Travellers and Roma communities.

How We Serve

We provide a wide range of focused supports and programmes aimed at empowering people to achieve their potential within the Archdiocese of Dublin. Our work is person centred, rights based and supports peer led initiatives that give people the power to make changes in their own lives.

In accordance 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, Crosscare has agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement as set out. Crosscare will:

- Recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- Fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- Fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters;
- Adopt safe practices and a Code of Behaviour to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- Fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

Crosscare has carried out an assessment of any potential risk of harm to a child while availing of our services. Below is a list of some areas of risk identified and procedures for managing these risks.

RISK IDENTIFIED	PROCEDURE TO MANAGE RISK
Unsuitable adults having access to young people	Garda Vetting for all staff/volunteers/tutors/students/interns. Reference checks and recruitment procedures in place.
Risk of inappropriate or abusive behaviour by staff/volunteers/students/interns	Induction for all. Child protection and safeguarding training for all. Clarity of roles for all. Code of Behaviour for all.
Inappropriate management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against staff/volunteers/students/interns	Child protection and safeguarding training for all. Clearly defined child protection policy and HR procedures that include roles and responsibilities of Managers.

The following procedures support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct of a worker/volunteer against a child availing of our services;
- Procedure for the safe recruitment, selection and supervision of workers and volunteers to work with children;
- Procedure for the provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons in the relevant service who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a ‘Relevant Person’

All procedures listed are available upon request.

Crosscare 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 services.

SIGNED: 

Conor Hickey, Crosscare, Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3.
 Tel: 01-8360011 or 087-2257079.
 (Provider of Relevant Services under the Children First Act 2015)

The Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in March, 2020, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

For queries, please contact:
 Ger Magee, Crosscare.
 Tel: 01-8360011 or 086-4031426.
 (Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015).