



St. Francis Hospice Dublin

(Under the care of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul)

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30th March 2018

St. Francis Hospice Dublin Child Safeguarding Statement

St Francis Hospice Dublin (SFHD) provides specialist palliative care services for the people of North Dublin City and County. We support more than 1,600 patients and their families each year. This care is provided by a multidisciplinary team. We help families, both during the person's illness and afterwards in bereavement. The service provided by SFHD is primarily for adult patients. However, we have a number of child patients who avail of our services each year. SFHD is committed to offering psychosocial care to children, whether they are a patient, or relative of someone under our care. We have over 250 staff and 300 volunteers.

St. Francis Hospice Dublin (SFHD) is committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all the children and young people who come in contact with our services. Safeguarding children is the responsibility of all staff and volunteers. SFHD has a zero tolerance approach to any form of abuse. SFHD policies and procedures have been developed to promote safe environments for children and young people; to mitigate the potential for risk to arise; and to manage it safely when it does. The policies and procedures outlined in this Child Safeguarding Statement apply to all SFHD staff (employees, community employment workers, students, those on clinical/training/work placements, contractors performing any role or function in, or on behalf of SFHD, board of directors) and volunteers. This Child Safeguarding Statement is informed by the following risk assessment:

Child Safeguarding Risk Assessment

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

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	Risk of harm to a child from a member of staff or volunteer	Pre-employment checks Professional standards for health care staff Professional regulation for health care professionals Volunteer recruitment process includes garda vetting and references Child protection and welfare policy Policy regarding safe practice and service delivery Consent policy

Directors: Mr. Tom McMahon (Interim Chairman), Dr. John Cooney, Prof. Peter Daly, Ms. Mary Hayes,
Ms. Ita Gibney, Sr. Bernadette MacMahon, Sr. Claire McKiernan, Mr. James Flynn, Dr. Carol-Ann Casey,
Mr. Patrick Kenny, Sr. Nuala Dolan, Mr. Joseph Pitcher, Fr. Philip Baxter, Mr. Pdraig O'Dea.

Registered Charity No. 20027193

Company Registration No. 153874

Charitable Tax Exemption No. CHY 10568

St Francis Hospice Dublin is a Company Limited by Guarantee.

Registered Office: St Francis Hospice Raheny, Station Road, Raheny, Dublin 5, D05 E392, Ireland.

2	Risk of harm to a child from a service user (adult or child), visitor or member of the public	Supervision/accompaniment policy Staff and volunteer supervision and training Reporting procedure
3	Risk of non-compliance with Children First Act and National Guidance	Children First implementation plan Children First compliance checklist
4	Risk of harm to a child resulting from a concern not being recognised or reported by staff	Staff and volunteer information, supervision and training – both at induction and ongoing. Reporting procedure Legal and administrative consequences of non-reporting

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:

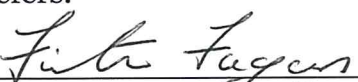
- Recruitment policies to ensure the selection and recruitment of staff and volunteers who are suitable to work with children, including Garda vetting policy;
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm;
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct made by adults, (including retrospective disclosures) or children
- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct by staff/volunteers of a child availing of our service;
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla;
- Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

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 11th March 2020, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:  (Provider)

Fintan Fagan, Chief Executive Officer

St. Francis Hospice Dublin, Station Road, Raheny, Dublin 5. Ph: 01 8327535

For queries, please contact Niamh Finucane, Co-ordinator of Social Work & Bereavement Services, Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015.

(01) 8327535 or nfinucane@sfh.ie