

SVP CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL CASTLEISLAND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE

SVP provides educational and recreational activities and services to children under 18 years of age nationally through our network of Regions and local Conferences.

SVP is committed to safeguarding children by working under the guidance of our national safeguarding policies and procedures. Our members, non-member volunteers and staff are committed to creating a safe environment for children and young people to grow and develop.

Each SVP Children's Activity or Service will conduct a specific written risk assessment and child safeguarding statement in line with Children First Act 2015, Protection for Persons Reporting Child Abuse Act 1998, NVB Act 2012 and 2016, Children First Guidance 2017 and Tusla Guidance on Developing a Child Safeguarding Statement.

SVP South West Region

Bright Beginnings Pre-School, Castleisland Family Resource Centre, Church St, Castleisland, Co. Kerry.

Susan O Mahony is the Relevant Person for this Child Safeguarding Statement.

Bright Beginnings preschool provides a morning preschool session for children from 2 years 9 months to 5 years. The preschool is located in Castleisland FRC and operates from 9.30 – 1pm Monday to Friday.

Castleisland FRC provides craft workshops at Easter and Christmas to children from 5 years to 12 years, camps during holidays such as Halloween and Summer to children with additional needs, weekly recreational class for children with additional needs, summer camps for preschool children, Family Support work including Meitheal, Book Club, Learning Support, Respect and Self-esteem classes, play therapy and Jigsaw (mental health).

This written risk assessment indicates the areas of potential harm, the likelihood of harm occurring, and lists the required policy, guidance, process and practice required to alleviate the risks.

Risks are identified in the following categories:

- Unauthorised collection of children from preschool
- Abuse or harm
- Poor recruitment and selection
- Specific / additional needs
- Technology and social media
- Personal care tasks
- Reporting procedures

| RISK | LIKELIHOOD | POLICIES TO CONTROL RISK |
|---|------------|---|
| Unauthorised collection of children from Preschool | Medium | Dropping off and collecting policy. Staff awareness on authorised collectors via enrolment forms. |
| Abuse or harm | Medium | Child protection policy including reporting procedures. All staff members have child protection training. |
| Poor recruitment and selection | Low | Recruitment & selection References Garda Vetting Interview Role description |
| Specific/additional needs | Medium | Additional needs policy Child protection policy Appropriate amount of trained staff (staffing policy) Awareness of inappropriate behaviour from one child to another |
| Technology and social media | Medium | Policy on the use of internet and social media. Prior consent or refusal for social media via the enrolment form. |
| Personal care tasks | Low | Child protection policy Toileting policy displayed in a prominent place. Staffing policy (rota) |

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| | | Child record sent home each day |
| Reporting procedures | Low | Child protection policy containing reporting procedures to follow. Child protection training. |

In addition to this service risk assessment the following procedures are in place throughout SVP as part of our safeguarding policies and procedures:

- Procedures for managing allegations of abuse or misconduct by volunteers or employees against a child availing of our services.
- Procedures for the safe recruitment of volunteers or employees to work with children in our services.
- Procedures to access child safeguarding training, including the identification and reporting of harm.
- Procedures for reporting child protection and welfare concerns to Statutory Authorities.

SVP Bright Beginnings recognises that implementation is an ongoing process – we are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm.

The Relevant Person for this Child Safeguarding Statement is:

Susan O'Mahony

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on:

30/06/2020
