

SVP CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Midlands Visitor Centre March 2018

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.

The Midlands Visitor Centre has conducted 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.

Region: SVP South East Region

Service: Midlands Visitor Centre, Midlands Prison, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co.Laois

Relevant Person: Anne Mc Loughlin

Midlands Visitor Centre is a service for visitors with play area for children of all ages.

The 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:

- Children alone in childcare area
- Children leaving play area to use toilets
- Use of phones and cameras
- Children left alone in visiting area
- Parents arrested during visits

RISK	LIKELIHOOD	POLICIES TO CONTROL RISK
Children alone in childcare area	Low risk	Childcare Policy, Health and Safety statement.
Children leaving play area to use toilets.	Medium Risk	Childcare toilet safety policy.
Use of phones and cameras	Low risk	Moblie phones and technology policy
Children left alone in visiting area	Low risk	IPS Notice and childcare policy.
Parents arrested during visits	Medium risk	IPS Policy and Visitors centre child safeguarding policy.

In addition to this service/activity risk assessments 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 Midlands Visitor Centre 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:
Anne McLoughlin

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed on:
11th March 2020