

SVP CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

St Josephs Childcare 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.

St Joseph's Childcare 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.

Waterford City
St Joseph's Childcare and Community Centre
Lower Yellow Road, Ballybricken

St Joseph's is a community based creche that offers a high-quality service for children aged between 5 months to 12 years. Our service caters to around 80 families, ranging from full-time, part-time, sessional and afterschool. We as a service welcome everybody regardless of their background, culture, religious beliefs etc.

Our centre's aim / ethos is to provide and promote positive and affirmative relationships between the children, staff and their families in an environment that is homely, welcoming and safe.

Our activities are centred around the 'whole child' to ensure their individual needs are met. We believe that by allowing the children the freedom to choose for themselves, this in turn enables them to grow, develop confidence, gain self-worth and self-belonging while attending our service. This is achieved by having good quality governance that instils best practice always, skilled mandated staff, age appropriate and stimulating curriculums. Our service is play based and child-

led, that allows the children to engage in many different types of play such as construction, imaginary, creative, social and physical play.

At St Joseph's, we revise and update our policies on a regular basis in accordance with all relevant legislations/regulations that oversee the early year services, the Children First Guidelines 2017 set out by the Tusla, the policies and procedures from the SVP, Siolta and Aistear.

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:

- Recruitment/Selection of inappropriate staff/students
- Inappropriate Behaviour
- Intimate Care
- Medication
- Child Missing
- Bullying between staff/children
- Technology / social media
- Reporting Concerns

| RISK | LIKELIHOOD | POLICIES TO CONTROL RISK |
|---|------------|--|
| Recruitment/ Selection of inappropriate staff/students | Low | Recruitment Policy Induction Policy Probation Policy Supervision Policy Training Policy |
| Inappropriate behaviour | low | Recruitment Policy Induction Policy Probation Policy Supervision Policy Code of Practise for dignity and respect |
| Intimate Care | Low | Nappy Changing Policy Toilet Training Policy |
| Medication | Low | Medication Policy Sickness Policy |
| Child Missing | Low | Outings policy |

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| | | Adult/child ratio Policy regarding outings |
| Bullying between staff/children | Low | Behaviour management Policy Anti-bullying policy Code of contact between staff /children Code of Practise for dignity and respect |
| Technology/social media | Low | Camera policy Phone policy Internet policy Parental consent |
| Reporting Concerns | low | Mandated staff Partnership with family policy Agency Policy Meitheal Training Child Protection 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.

St Joseph's Childcare 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:
Rachel English/Geraldine Croke

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