



## Child Safeguarding Statement

This *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*.

## Safeguarding Statement

### 1. Name of service being provided:

The Irish Street Arts, Circus & Spectacle Network (ISACS)

### 2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:

ISACS is Ireland’s leading support and advocacy organisation for the development of street arts, circus and spectacle art forms. We represent over 150 member organisations and individuals across Ireland and beyond.

We work with people aged 18 years and over. ISACS does not directly target children, young people or vulnerable adults. However, the network may occasionally work with organisations who do work with children, young people or vulnerable adults, and so ISACS would provide a relevant service under the *Children First Act 2015*:

*5. Any work or activity which consists of the provision of—*

*(a) educational, research, training, cultural, recreational, leisure, social or physical activities to children.*

### 3. Risk Assessment

Section 2 of the *Children First Act 2015* defines harm as follows: ‘harm means in relation to a child– (a) assault, ill-treatment or neglect of the child in a manner that seriously affects, or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare, or, (b) sexual abuse of the child.’

Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage identified risk</b>
1	Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between ISACS employees and a young person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Policy on code of behaviour between employees and young people.</li> <li>● Policy on digital engagement</li> </ul>

2	Risk of harm due to inappropriate use of images of young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Policy on appropriate use of images</li> <li>● Communication and Social Media Policies</li> </ul>
3	Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All personnel are provided with procedures for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla. Including information on the role and responsibilities of the Designated Child Protection Officer.</li> </ul>
4	Risk of harm not being recognised by ISACS employees (including volunteers and contracted workers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm</li> </ul>
5	Risk of young person being harmed by ISACS employees (including volunteers and contracted workers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of employees and volunteers</li> <li>● Policy for the Supervision/ training and support of employees</li> <li>● Code of Behaviour for employees and volunteers</li> </ul>

#### 4. 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 and young people while they are availing of our service and are contained in our *Child Welfare & Protection Policy*:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against employees/volunteers of a child availing of our service.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla.
- Procedure for appointing and maintaining a list of people who are Designated Liaison Persons and Deputy Designated Liaison Persons.

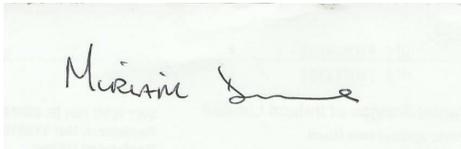
#### 5. Vulnerable Adults

The procedures contained in our *Child Welfare & Protection Policy* extend to the provision of services to vulnerable adults.

## 6. Implementation

ISACS recognises that implementation is an on-going process. The company is committed to the implementation of this *Child Safeguarding Statement* and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm.

This *Child Safeguarding Statement* and the *Child Welfare & Protection Policy* will be reviewed on an annual basis, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to be 'Miriam' followed by a stylized flourish.

Signed:

Date: 09/02/2022

ISACS Chairperson

For queries, please contact the DLP Lucy Medlycott at [director@isacs.ie](mailto:director@isacs.ie) , Child Protection Officer under the *Children First Act 2015*.