



PLEASE NOTE: For further information please refer to www.tusla.ie

A Child Safeguarding Statement: is a written statement that specifies the service being provided and the principles and procedures to be observed in order to ensure, as far as practicable, that a child availing of the service is safe from harm.

Points to follow when drafting a Child Safeguarding Statement for your dancing class:

1. Name the Service being provided:

Name your dance school and teachers.

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

Give a brief outline on what you do, the style of dance you teach, age range of students, addresses of venues and your commitment to safeguard the children you teach.

Such as (you can choose any or all of the following or use your own wording):

- The (insert name of school) is committed to providing a safe and happy environment for children and young people who attend our dancing class and also for the teachers and parents/guardians.
- We recognise that the welfare of children must always come first, regardless of all other considerations.
- We acknowledge the rights of children to be protected, treated with respect, listened to and have their own view taken into consideration.
- We adopt the safest possible practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children and protect teachers from the necessity to take risks and leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect.
- We have a policy of openness with parents that involves consulting them about everything that concerns their children.
- We ensure our teachers are Garda vetted and aware of the procedures to be followed if child abuse is suspected /or spoken about by a student.

Our policy declaration applies to teachers of the (insert school name and teachers) and any temporary teacher must sign up and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance covered by this policy declaration and our child safeguarding policy.

The name of the **Designated Liaison Person** for your dance school can be included here:

Designated Liaison Person is the appointed person within the organisation/school/class who is accessible to everyone and if the need arises can act as a liaison with outside agencies.

3. Risk Assessment (See section on risk assessment)

4. Procedures:

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act, 2015: the Children First: National Guidance 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:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against worker/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 a relevant person.
(Relevant Person is the first point of contact regarding your Child Safeguarding statement)

All procedures listed are available on request.

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing 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 every two years or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers (2 year review is mandatory)

Signed..... Provider

(Provider is the individual with overall responsibility for the Dancing class)

Providers Name and Contact

Details.....

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For queries please contact.....

Relevant Person under the Children First Act, 2015

Upon completion, the Child Safeguarding statement must be displayed publicly and (**ON REQUEST** made available to parents/guardians, Tusla and members of public). Every teacher (or adult with responsibility for students) within your class should have a copy of the child safeguarding statement.

