

Swim Ireland Participation Programme Child Safeguarding Statement

The Swim Ireland Participation Department provide opportunities for young people through involvement in aquatic programmes and activities. All provided programmes are committed to safeguarding children and operate under the guidance of the Swim Ireland Safeguarding Policy 2019 and associated guidance from the Participation Department where relevant. All staff, volunteers and employed staff, who work with young people in our programmes and activities, seek to create a safe environment for young people to participate.

A Risk Assessment of harm of abuse has been completed containing the following areas of potential risk of harm to young people in our programmes:

Risk of harm identified in each section of the Risk Assessment	Procedure in place to mitigate risk of harm
Programme and Coaching Practices – including risk of behaviour, unauthorised activities, lack of adherence to Safeguarding Policies	Safeguarding and Participation roles including their responsibilities Safeguarding Training Poor practice and Whistleblowing Filming & Photography policy
Recruitment – including risk of unqualified persons or lack of clarity of role of those working with young people	Vetting policy Recruitment policy Safeguarding Training
Complaints & Discipline including lack of awareness of procedures and how to raise issues	Participation Complaints & Disciplinary procedures Communications policy Poor practice and Whistleblowing
Use of indoor and outdoor facilities – including the risk of harm whilst accessing facilities	Person on Duty and Supervision policies Poor practice and Whistleblowing Policy
Communications – including risk of harm whilst communicating with young people	Communications policy Code of Conduct
General Risk of Harm – including risk of harm due to bullying, poor practice	Code of Conduct Anti-bullying Promise and policy Poor practice and Whistleblowing policy
Reporting Procedures – including risk of harm through not knowing or understanding reporting procedures	Poor practice and Whistleblowing Policy Recognising and Reporting Child Abuse policy

The Risk Assessment of Harm for the programmes and activities was undertaken on 3rd June 2021

This 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). Our Participation programmes and activities also operate in line with Swim Ireland Safeguarding policies. There are, in addition to our Risk Assessment of Harm procedures detailed above, further policy documents that support our intention to safeguard children while they are involved with our activities. The following are the additional procedures and policies in the Swim Ireland Safeguarding Policy:

- Section 1 Compliancy including Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment of Harm (understanding this document)
- Section 2 Working with young people including Inclusion policy; Well-being and Mental Health policy
- Section 3 Policies including Physical Contact; Social Media policy; Spectator Behaviour policy;

The Swim Ireland appointed Mandated Person is Kate Hills, contact phone: 0868560672; contact mail: katehills@swimireland.ie

The implementation of the Swim Ireland Safeguarding Policy 2019 is an ongoing process. Our Participation programmes and activities are committed to the implementation of these procedures contained in this Child Safeguarding Statement and our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our activities.

This Child Safeguarding Statement must be reviewed every two years.

Contact details for Head of Participation Department

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For queries on this Child Safeguarding Statement, please contact the Relevant Person – Kate Hills