



## Child Safeguarding Statement of Cairde na Cruite

Cairde na Cruite was established in 1960 and plays a central role in the revival and development of interest in the Irish harp. While its original objectives espoused the provision of expert tuition and the publication of music for the Irish harp, its mission has evolved considerably over the last 50+ years and the society has made a significant contribution to the development of a vibrant dynamic role for the Irish harp, and its positioning within Irish traditional music.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the directors of Cairde na Cruite have agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Aibhlín McCrann  
The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Áine Ní Dhubhghaill
- 2 The directors recognise that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of Cairde na Cruite activities, and that they must be reflected in all of its policies, procedures, practices and activities. Therefore, Cairde na Cruite will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

Cairde na Cruite will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children, and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in Cairde na Cruite activities; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

Cairde na Cruite will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult participant in its activities, who has a special vulnerability.

1. 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 any of our services:
  - In relation to the selection or recruitment of tutors and their suitability to work with children, Cairde na Cruite adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016.
  - In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to steering group members in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) Cairde na Cruite-
    - Has provided each member with a copy of Cairde na Cruite Child Safeguarding Statement
    - Ensures all new members are provided with a copy of the Cairde na Cruite Safeguarding Statement
    - Encourages steering group members to avail of relevant training
  - In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, Cairde na Cruite personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Children First Act 2015.
  - Cairde na Cruite has appointed the above named DLP as the "relevant person" (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the child safeguarding statement.
  - Cairde na Cruite mandated persons, as specified in the Children First Act 2015, are listed as an appendix to the statement.
  - In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, Cairde na Cruite directors have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending events or activities organised by the group. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the procedures for managing those risks is attached as an appendix to this statement.
  - The various procedures referred to in this Statement will be made available on request.
2. This statement has been provided to all committee members. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department, if requested.
3. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the directors of Cairde na Cruite on 8 May 2018

Signed



Festival Director Cairde na Cruite

Signed:



Chairperson Cairde na Cruite

Date: May 11 2018

## Written Assessment of Risk of Cairde na Cruite

### 1. List of Cairde na Cruite activities

Workshops given by Cairde na Cruite personnel and by outside personnel  
An Chúirt Chruitreachta,,International Festival for Irish Harp.  
Concerts.  
Ensemble Gatherings.  
National Harp Day events.  
Use of video/photography/other media to record group events

### 2. Cairde na Cruite has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

- Risk of harm not being recognised by Cairde na Cruite personnel
- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by Cairde na Cruite personnel
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of Cairde an Cruite personnel
- Risk of child being harmed during Cairde na Cruite activities by another child
- Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer or visitor to a Cairde na Cruite event.
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of Cairde na Cruite person while child participating in Cairde na Cruite activities e.g. fundraising event
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending Cairde na Cruite activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm caused by member of Cairde na Cruite personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member of Cairde na Cruite personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

### 3. Cairde na Cruite has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

- All Cairde na Cruite personnel are provided with a copy of its *Child Safeguarding Statement*
- The committee ensure that there is appropriate supervision of children during all its activities as listed above.
- Cairde na Cruite adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
- Cairde na Cruite –
  - Has provided each steering group member with a copy of its Child Safeguarding Statement

- Ensures all new staff/steering group members are provided with a copy of its Child Safeguarding Statement
- Encourages steering group members to avail of relevant training

**Important Note:** It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk.

In undertaking this risk assessment, the directors have endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to Cairde na Cruite and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, Cairde na Cruite has in place, the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This risk assessment has been completed by the Cairde na Cruite in April 2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the Cairde na Cruite annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Signed 

Festival Director



Chairperson