

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. NAME OF SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES PROVIDED

Navan Educate Together Pre-school is a registered pre-school providing quality, affordable early education to children aged between 3 and 5 years:

It is a community service and is classified as a sessional service under the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services Regulations 2016). We run two sessions. Our morning session is from 9.00 to 12.00 and our afternoon session is from 12.30 to 3.30. Our afternoon session is for the younger children.

The management structure is:

- Board of Management
- Manager
- 2 staff members and 1 Special Needs Assistant

2. COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM

- Our Service is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can play, learn and develop.
- Our service believes that the welfare of the children attending our service is paramount. We are committed to child-centred practice in all our work with children.
- We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our service, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to, and heard.
- Our policy and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and are underpinned by *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children*, DCYA, 2017, *Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Practice and Procedure*, Tusla, 2018, and the *Children First Act 2015*.
- Our policy declaration applies to all paid staff, volunteers, committee/ board members and students on work placement within our organisation. All committee board members, staff, volunteers and students must sign up to and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance encompassed by this policy declaration and our child safeguarding policy and accompanying procedures.
- We will review our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures every 2 years or sooner if necessary, due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.

- **Designated Liaison Person (DLP) for Child Protection**

DLP: <i>Eva Boyle (Principal)</i> <i>Contact: 046 9060305</i>	Deputy: <i>Eleanor Barker (Vice-Principal)</i> <i>Contact:046 9060305</i>
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3. RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the *Children First Act 2015*, the Board of Management/Service Provider has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in service activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the service procedures for managing those risks is summarised below:

Risk Identified	Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk
Recruitment	Recruitment, Induction and Garda Vetting policies. Include info on children First Act,2015 in induction
Visitors to Service	Visitors are required to sign Visitors book.
Need to re-vet staff after 5 years	Garda Vetting Policy. Garda Vetting to be re- applied for after the first 5 years employment

4. CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As required by the *Children First Act 2015* and *Children First National Guidance for Protection and Welfare of Children, 2017* the following safeguarding policies/procedures/measures are in place

- Procedure to maintain a list of mandated persons under the Children First Act, 2015
- A Relevant Person has been appointed
- A Designated Liaison Person and Deputy have been appointed
- Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedures

- Confidentiality Policy
- Policy for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse or Neglect Against Employees
- Procedure for Managing Child Protection Records
- Recruitment Policy
- Garda Vetting Policy
- Code of Behaviour for Working with Children
- Induction Policy (which includes procedures to inform new staff about the Child Safeguarding Statement and accompanying safeguarding policies and procedures)
- All staff have completed the Tusla eLearning module – *Introduction to Children First* and relevant staff have attended Always Children First Child Protection Training.
- Staff have access to regular Supervision and Support in line with the service policy.
- Complaints Policy
- Policy for Managing Outings
- Policy for Managing Accidents and Incidents
- Social Media Management Policy

5. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

- We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.
- This Statement will be reviewed every 2 years or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.
- This statement has been published on the service website and is displayed in the service. It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with the service. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla if requested.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Service Provider's name and contact details:

For further information on this Statement, contact Relevant Person: Eva Boyle (Principal)

046 9060305

