



## CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

1. **Name of service being provided:** Mohill Family Support Centre

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

Mohill Family Support Centre CLG provides universal and targeted supports for the Mohill and the catchments areas of Carigallen and Ballinamore. Mohill Family Support Centre also facilitate Family access visit, Parent and Toddler Group, Play Therapy sessions, Brief Intervention programme for young people aged 10 – 18 years and a Youth Café. Mohill Family Support Centre CLG are committed to safeguarding the welfare of Children and young people in line with *Children First Act 2015, The Children's First: National Guidance and Tulsa's Child Safe Guarding: A Guide for Policy; Procedure and Practice*.

**Here at Mohill Family Support Centre we provide the following services to children/young people:**

- Targeted & Universal Family support for families whom are referred or Self Refer to our Organisation.
- Adolescent Counselling, Play Therapy, Brief Intervention programme and Art Therapy.
- Youth Café & Foroige groups for Adolescents.
- Youth led programs based on need.
- We facilitate Eiver's Lane Crèche with the running of their Early Years' Service & Afterschool club.

**Guiding principles to safeguard children from harm**

**We believe that:**

- Our priority is to ensure the welfare and safety of every child and young person who attends our service is paramount;
- Our guiding principles and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and we will review our guiding principles and child safeguarding every two years;
- All children and young people have an equal right to attend a service that respects them as individuals and encourages them to reach their potential, regardless of their background;
- We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our service, including the right to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to and heard;
- Our guiding principles apply to everyone in our organisation;



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- Workers/volunteers must conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of our organisation.

### 3. Risk Assessment

Mohill Family Support Centre has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm (as defined in the Children First Act, 2015) to a child while availing of our services. Risk of harm as defined in the Act 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 a child.

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

#### Risk Assessment

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk Identified
<b>Abuse by Staff member to a Child</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garda Vetting</li> <li>• Recruitment Policy and Procedures</li> <li>• Induction for Staff Member</li> <li>• Employee Hand book</li> <li>• Support and Supervision Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Child Protection Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Children First and Reporting Procedure</li> </ul>
<b>Abuse by Volunteer to a Child</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garda Vetting</li> <li>• Recruitment Policy and Procedures for Volunteers</li> <li>• Induction process for Volunteer</li> <li>• Support and Supervision Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Child Protection Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Children First and Reporting Procedure</li> </ul>
<b>Child makes a Disclosure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff /Volunteers to be trained in Children’s</li> </ul>



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	<p>Protection and Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Protection Policy and Procedures implemented</li> <li>• Staff /Volunteer Report to their Designated Liaison Person</li> </ul>
<b>Child makes a Disclosure and Staff/Volunteer do not respond appropriately</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff /Volunteers to be trained in Children’s Protection and Welfare</li> <li>• Staff /Volunteers Know the Child Protection Policy and procedure of Mohill Family Support Centre</li> <li>• Staff/Volunteer know who their Designated Liaison Person is</li> <li>• Disciplinary procedures may need to activated by the Voluntary Board of Directors of Mohill Family Support Centre</li> </ul>
<b>Child/ children bullying another Child/children - Peer Abuse</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mohill Family Support Child Protection and Welfare Policy and procedures</li> <li>• Code of Behaviour Policy and procedure in place</li> <li>• Contract of Rules drawn up the group</li> <li>• Social Media Policy and Procedure</li> <li>• Supervision Policy in place</li> <li>• Anti-Bullying Policy and Procedure</li> </ul>
<b>Cyber Bullying through Social Media platforms – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Media Policy</li> <li>• Staff/ Volunteers are trained in the dangers of Social Media</li> <li>• Child Protection Policy and Procedure</li> </ul>
<b>Policies and Procedures not being implemented by Staff/Volunteers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Induction Training</li> <li>• Support and Supervision meetings</li> <li>• Disciplinary Policy and Procedures</li> </ul>

### 4. Procedures

Mohill Family Support Centre CLG Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children’s First Act 2015, the Children’s First: National Guidance and Tusla’s Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy: Procedures and Practice.



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In addition to the procedures listed in the risk assessment above which was conducted by Mohill Family Support Centre CLG the additional procedures support and safe guard the welfare and protection of the children/young people while they are attending /availing of the services that Mohill Family Support Centre CLG.

- Procedures are in place for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against staff/volunteers of Mohill Family Support Centre
- Procedures for safe recruitment and selections of staff/volunteers of Mohill Family Support Centre CLG
- Procedures are in place to the reporting of Child Protection and Welfare Concerns to Tusla
- A list of mandated reporters are on display for all individual/service user using the centre to view

**This Child Safeguarding Statement will be displayed prominently.**

All procedures will be made available to staff, parents, young people, members of the public and Tusla if requested.

### 5. Implementation and Review

#### Implementation

Mohill Family Support Centre CLG recognises that implementation is on-going and reflective process. Mohill Family Support Centre CLG are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support Mohill Family Support Centre CLG to keep children safe from harm while availing of the services Mohill Family Support Centre provide to children and young people.

#### Review

This Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed regularly in light of any legislative or other relevant indicators

The Safeguarding Statement was discussed and ratified at meeting of the Voluntary Board of Directors of Mohill Family Support Centre CLG



## CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by the Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by other Director: \_\_\_\_\_

For queries, please contact **Majella Mc Govern**, who is the relevant person and the first point of contact regarding this Child Safeguarding Statement under the children First Act, 2015.

**Majella McGovern, Coordinator 0719631253**