



Irish Girl Guides Child Safeguarding Statement

1. About our Service

Irish Girl Guides (IGG) is a volunteer-led organisation for girls and young women aged 5–30. We provide a safe, fun, and supportive place where girls can learn new skills, build confidence, make friends, and take part in activities.

Membership is voluntary and open to anyone who lives their life as female and accepts the Guide Law and Promise.

Keeping children safe is our top priority. Anyone working with girls in IGG must follow our safeguarding rules and procedures.

The policies and procedures outlined in this Child Safeguarding Statement apply to all staff, members, volunteers, students, trainees, contractors, and anyone else carrying out work or activities on behalf of IGG.

2. Our Commitment to Keeping Children Safe

We believe every child has the right to feel safe and respected. We do not tolerate bullying, harassment, abuse, or any behaviour that harms a child.

Our Leaders are trained to put the needs of the girl first.

IGG has policies and procedures to protect children and support volunteers in their safeguarding responsibilities.

3. Risk Assessment

Under the Children First Act 2015 IGG must identify possible risks of harm to children and outline how we reduce these risks. “Harm” includes physical, emotional, or sexual harm, or neglect. The following risks and controls apply to all IGG units, events, and activities.

Possible Risk	How we reduce these risks
A child could be harmed while taking part in IGG activities	- Safe recruitment and screening, including Garda Vetting - Volunteer policies and codes of behaviour - Safeguarding policies & procedures - Safeguarding & Child Protection Training - Clear reporting procedures - Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Deputy DLP (The DLP is the person responsible for managing child protection concerns in IGG.)
A child could be harmed at a residential event (an overnight or multi-day trip)	- Garda Vetting and Screening - Safeguarding policies & procedures - Safeguarding & Child Protection Training - Rules for residential events - Substance Use Policy - Conduct Guidelines and Agreement Forms
A child could be harmed online	- Social media and online communication guidelines - Rules for using photos and videos of members - Online safety education for youth members - Virtual Meeting Guidelines
A child could be bullied	- Anti-bullying procedures - Conduct Guidelines Agreement Forms - Safeguarding & Child Protection Training - Bullying awareness programme for youth members - Disciplinary Procedures

4. Safeguarding Procedures

IGG follows the Children First Act 2015, Children First National Guidance (2017), and Tusla's Child Safeguarding Guide.

We have procedures for:

- Managing allegations or concerns about members, volunteers, or staff
- Responding to child protection concerns or disclosures
- Reporting concerns to Tusla
- Suspending or removing members, volunteers or staff if necessary
- Providing safeguarding training and information
- Safe recruitment and Garda Vetting
- Responding to bullying concerns /incidents of bullying reported
- Suspending or ending a child or adults' membership
- Maintaining a list of mandated persons
(Mandated persons are people who must report child protection concerns by law.)
- Appointing a relevant person for safeguarding.

All procedures are available on request.

5. Implementation

IGG is committed to putting this Child Safeguarding Statement into practice every day.

This Statement will be reviewed in **June 2028** or sooner if something important changes.

Signed:

Date:



IGG Safeguarding Manager
(Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015)



6. Contact Information

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