



Music Network

Child Safeguarding Statement

Name of service being provided

Music Network's Learning and Participation Programme provides bespoke educational music activities around the country to children, young people and adults, in partnership with local organisations / teachers.

Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm

The Learning and Participation Programme offers educational activities related to the Music Network Touring Programme, Music Network Artist Residency and other stand-alone projects, for example:

- Instrumental and vocal workshops
- Composition / improvisation workshops
- Demonstration / question and answer sessions
- Performance opportunities
- Mentor sessions

Activities are generally facilitated by performing musicians during their tour/residency or in advance of/following on from tours/residencies. Activities may also take place as stand-alone events or in relation to stand-alone performances. Music Network generally works in partnership with a host organisation in order to coordinate activities. The local coordinator liaises on behalf of the participant group (this may be an existing group, or individuals coming together for the Learning and Participation project) as well as attending the activity/arranging an alternate supervisor (if necessary), and documenting the activity.

Risk assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. Note- this relates to harm as defined in the Children First Act 2015, and is separate to a health and safety risk assessment carried out in relation to activities. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of participants.	Where activities are coordinated by Music Network only: Music Network arranges a participant to staff ratio which allows for sufficient supervision. Where activities are coordinated by Music Network in partnership with a host organisation: the local coordinator arranges the supervision of activities.
Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship / communication between participant and facilitator	Where activities are coordinated by Music Network only: facilitators are provided with a copy of the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policies and Procedures (which includes a Code of Behaviour), and sign a Declaration confirming they have read and will adhere to the guidelines therein.

	<p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network in partnership with a host organisation: all facilitators are provided with a copy of the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures (which includes a Code of Behaviour), and sign a Declaration confirming they have read and will adhere to the guidelines therein, in addition to adhering to any specific additional requirements outlined by the host organisation in relation to their own policies and procedures.</p>
Risk of child being harmed by another child	<p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network only: Music Network arranges a participant to staff ratio which allows for sufficient supervision.</p> <p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network in partnership with a host organisation: the local coordinator arranges the supervision of activities.</p>
Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly	<p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network only: Music Network’s Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures specifies procedures for the recording and reporting of complaints, and lists contact details for the Designated Liaison Person and Deputy Designated Liaison Person, and relevant Tusla representative.</p> <p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network in partnership with a host organisation: Music Network staff / facilitators will adhere to the partner organisation’s policy and procedures for reporting, including liaising with the partner organisation’s Designated Liaison Person.</p>
Risk of harm in one-to-one teaching situation	<p>Music Network arranges one-to-one sessions for participants aged over 18 only.</p>
Risk of harm in an online teaching situation	<p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network only: facilitators will adhere to the code of practice for the delivery of online learning and participation activities included in the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures (section 2.1).</p> <p>Where activities are coordinated by Music Network in partnership with a host organisation: all facilitators will adhere to the code of practice for the delivery of online learning and participation activities included in the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures (section 2.1), in addition to adhering to any specific additional requirements outlined by the host organisation in relation to their own policies and procedures.</p>

Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children, 2017*, 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 our services:

- **Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers by a child availing of our service:**
See the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures, Section 8: Allegations of Misconduct or Abuse by Staff Members.
- **Procedure for the safe recruitment of staff:**
See the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures, Section 5: Procedures for Recruiting and Selecting Staff.
- **Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm:**
See the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures, Section 6: Managing and Supervising Staff.
- **Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla:**
See the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures, Section 3: Recording & Reporting Procedures and Section 4: Statement of Confidentiality.
- **Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons:**
The Designated Liaison Person checks the Schedule of Mandated Persons (Children First Act 2015, Schedule 2) to determine if new employees are one of the classes of person defined as a mandated person and, if necessary, ensures they are added to the list of mandated persons.
- **Procedure for appointing a relevant person:**
The relevant person is the Programmes Administrator. This is currently Sarah Ledwidge, whose details are given at the end of this document. In the event that the Programmes Administrator role is vacant, the procedure for appointing is that the Board and CEO propose and nominate an employee as the relevant person. All procedures are detailed in the Music Network Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures document, which is available at the Music Network offices and on the Music Network website (www.musicnetwork.ie).

Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service. This Child Safeguarding Statement is up to date as of September 2020 and will be reviewed in September 2022, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.



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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Finnegan', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 19/10/20

Peter Finnegan, Chair
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For queries, please contact:

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Last reviewed November 2021