Information for Parents/Carers on Children First in Early Learning and Care Services

Information on Child Safeguarding for Parents and Carers

Name of Early Learning and Care Service:
___________________________________________

Address:
___________________________________________
___________________________________________
___________________________________________

Name of Relevant Person:
___________________________________________

Contact No: ☏ ________________________________

Name of Designated Liaison Person (DLP):
___________________________________________

Contact No: ☏ ________________________________

Name of Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDLP):
___________________________________________

Contact No: ☏ ________________________________

Additional Information for Parents can be found below:

- www.tusla.ie/children-first/parents-and-guardians/
- www.childsafeguardingelc.ie
- www.tusla.ie/children-first/
- www.tusla.ie/services/family-community-support/pre-school-services/

• www.tusla.ie/children-first/parents-and-guardians/
• www.childsafeguardingelc.ie
• www.tusla.ie/children-first/
• www.tusla.ie/services/family-community-support/pre-school-services/
Children First Children First: National Guidance outlines that all organisations working with children, including Early Learning and Care Services should create a culture of safety that promotes the welfare of children and young people availing of their services. ELC services are also defined as ‘relevant services’ in the Children First Act 2015 and have specific statutory obligations under the Act to keep children safe whilst they are availing of the service.

The Children First Act 2015 places specific obligations on organisations which provide services to children and young people. One of these obligations is to report Child Protection and Welfare concerns above a defined threshold to Tusla.

What should parents/carers expect from an Early Learning and Care Service?

- It is a legal requirement that all Early Learning and Care Services are registered with Tusla.
- A Child Safeguarding Statement that is clearly visible to all who enter the service. The purpose of this Child Safeguarding Statement is to ensure that children are safeguarded while availing of the service.
- A Child Safeguarding Policy that outlines the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to Child Protection and Welfare concerns. Specifically, this policy should outline reporting procedures and procedures for dealing with allegations made against staff and volunteers within the service.
- A Code of Behaviour within the Child Safeguarding Policy that outlines the standard expected from all employees and explains what is acceptable and what is not when employees are working with children.
- A Safe Recruitment Policy, based on Tusla’s ‘Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice’.
- All Early Learning and Care Services should have a training strategy in place to ensure that ALL STAFF receive training on Children First.