



Child Safeguarding Statement of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland

Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland is a collective of harp players working together to promote our national instrument, gain recognition for its unique status and secure its sustainability. Enabling inclusive contemporary expression of our 1000-year-old harp tradition is at the heart of what we do. We enable creative expression across a broad range of harp genres. We affirm and promote the harp as Ireland's national emblem, and we seek sustainable supports for the harp in Ireland.

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and Tusla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, the directors of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland have agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Aibhlín McCrann
The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Aileen Kennedy
- 2 The directors recognise that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland life, and that they must be reflected in all of its policies, procedures, practices and activities. Therefore, Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland will:

- recognise that the protection and welfare of children is of paramount importance, regardless of all other considerations;
- fully comply with its statutory obligations under the Children First Act 2015 and other relevant legislation relating to the protection and welfare of children;
- fully co-operate with the relevant statutory authorities in relation to child protection and welfare matters
- adopt safe practices to minimise the possibility of harm or accidents happening to children, and protect workers from the necessity to take unnecessary risks that may leave themselves open to accusations of abuse or neglect;
- develop a practice of openness with parents and encourage parental involvement in Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland activities; and
- fully respect confidentiality requirements in dealing with child protection matters.

Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland will also adhere to the above principles in relation to any adult participant in its activities, who has a special vulnerability.

1. Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, 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 any of our services:

- In relation to the selection or recruitment of tutors and their suitability to work with children, Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland adheres to the statutory vetting requirements of the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016.
 - In relation to the provision of information and, where necessary, instruction and training, to steering group members in respect of the identification of the occurrence of harm (as defined in the 2015 Act) Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland -
 - Has provided each member with a copy of the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Ensures all new members are provided with a copy of the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland Child Safeguarding Statement
 - Encourages steering group members to avail of relevant training
 - In relation to reporting of child protection concerns to Tusla, Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel are required to adhere to the procedures set out in the Children First Act 2015.
 - Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland has appointed the above named DLP as the “relevant person” (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) to be the first point of contact in respect of the child safeguarding statement.
 - Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland mandated persons, as specified in the Children First Act 2015, are listed as an appendix to the statement.
 - In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland directors have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending events or activities organised by the group. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the procedures for managing those risks is attached as an appendix to this statement.
 - The various procedures referred to in this Statement will be made available on request.
2. This statement has been provided to all steering group members. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla and the Department, if requested.
3. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed annually or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which this statement refers.

This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by the directors of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland on _____ [date].

Signed: _____

Chairperson Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland

Signed: _____

Secretary Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland

Date: _____

Date: _____

Written Assessment of Risk of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland

1. List of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland activities

Workshops given by Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel and by outside personnel
Fundraising events.
Concerts.
Ensemble Gatherings.
National Harp Day events.
Use of video/photography/other media to record group events

2. Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland has identified the following risk of harm in respect of its activities -

- Risk of harm not being recognised by Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel
- Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel
- Risk of child being harmed during Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland activities by another child
- Risk of child being harmed by a volunteer or visitor to a Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland event.
- Risk of child being harmed by a member of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel, a member of staff of another organisation or other person while child participating in Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland activities e.g. fundraising event
- Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland activities
- Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and another child or adult
- Risk of harm to children with SEN who have particular vulnerabilities
- Risk of harm caused by member of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel communicating with pupils in an inappropriate manner via social media, texting, digital device or other manner
- Risk of harm caused by member of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel accessing/circulating inappropriate material via social media, texting, digital device or other manner

3. Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland has the following procedures in place to address the risks of harm identified in this assessment -

- All Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland personnel are provided with a copy of the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland *Child Safeguarding Statement*
- The committee ensure that there is appropriate supervision of children during all Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland activities as listed above.
- Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland adheres to the requirements of the Garda vetting legislation
- Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland –
 - Has provided each steering group member with a copy of the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland *Child Safeguarding Statement*

- Ensures all new staff/steering group members are provided with a copy of the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland Child Safeguarding Statement
- Encourages steering group members to avail of relevant training

Important Note: It should be noted that risk in the context of this risk assessment is the risk of “harm” as defined in the Children First Act 2015 and not general health and safety risk.

In undertaking this risk assessment, the directors have endeavoured to identify as far as possible the risks of harm that are relevant to Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland and to ensure that adequate procedures are in place to manage all risks identified. While it is not possible to foresee and remove all risk of harm, Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland has in place, the procedures listed in this risk assessment to manage and reduce risk to the greatest possible extent.

This risk assessment has been completed by the directors of Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland in April 2018. It shall be reviewed as part of the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland annual review of its Child Safeguarding Statement.

Appendix 1- Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland Mandated Persons

Am I a Mandated Person?

Schedule 2 of the Children First Act 2015 specifies the following classes of persons as Mandated Persons for the purposes of the Act:

1. Registered medical practitioner within the meaning of section 2 of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007.
2. Registered nurse or registered midwife within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Nurses and Midwives Act 2011.
3. Physiotherapist registered in the register of members of that profession.
4. Speech and language therapist registered in the register of members of that profession.
5. Occupational therapist registered in the register of members of that profession.
6. Registered dentist within the meaning of section 2 of the Dentists Act 1985.
7. Psychologist who practises as such and who is eligible for registration in the register (if any) of members of that profession.
8. Social care worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration in accordance with Part 4 of the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 in the register of that profession.
9. Social worker who practises as such and who is eligible for registration in accordance with Part 4 of the Health and Social Care Professionals Act 2005 in the register (if any) of that profession.
10. Emergency medical technician, paramedic and advanced paramedic registered with the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council under the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (Establishment) Order 2000 (S.I. No. 109 of 2000).
11. Probation officer within the meaning of section 1 of the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983.
12. Teacher registered with the Teaching Council.
13. Member of An Garda Síochána.
14. Guardian ad litem appointed in accordance with section 26 of the Child Care Act 1991.
15. Person employed in any of the following capacities:

- (a) manager of a domestic violence shelter;
- (b) manager of homeless provision or emergency accommodation facility;
- (c) manager of asylum seeker accommodation (direct provision) centre;
- (d) addiction counsellor employed by a body funded, wholly or partly, out of moneys provided by the Oireachtas;
- (e) psychotherapist or a person providing counselling who is registered with one of the voluntary professional bodies;
- (f) manager of a language school or other recreational school where children reside away from home;
- (g) member of the clergy (howsoever described) or pastoral care worker (howsoever described) of a church or other religious community;
- (h) director of any institution where a child is detained by an order of a court;
- (i) safeguarding officer, child protection officer or other person (howsoever

described) who is employed for the purpose of performing the child welfare and protection function of religious, sporting, recreational, cultural, educational and other bodies and organisations offering services to children;

(j) child care staff member employed in a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991;

(k) person responsible for the care or management of a youth work service within the meaning of section 2 of the Youth Work Act 2001.

16. Youth worker who—

(a) holds a professional qualification that is recognised by the National Qualifications Authority in youth work within the meaning of section 3 of the Youth Work Act 2001 or a related discipline, and

(b) is employed in a youth work service within the meaning of section 2 of the Youth Work Act 2001.

17. Foster carer registered with the Agency.

18. A person carrying on a pre-school service within the meaning of Part VIIA of the Child Care Act 1991.