



Harp Ireland Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment

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.

Our activities include but are not limited to an annual harp day celebration, harp workshops, fundraising events, ensemble gatherings, concerts, recitals, harping festivals, online events and use of video/photography and other media to record harp events.

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.
Lectures/talks.
National Harp Day events.
Online events
Use of video/photography/other media to record group events

2. Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland has identified the following risk of harm along with the procedures in place to manage the risk identified in respect of its activities -

Risk Identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
Risk of harm not being recognised by Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland personnel	All personnel are directed to the relevant Children First training.
Risk of harm not being reported properly and promptly by Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland personnel	The Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures of Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland are made available to all personnel.
Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of children while attending Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland activities	Where activities are organised by Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland, participant to staff ratios which allows for adequate supervision (taking into account the age and stage of participants) is arranged.
Risk of harm due to inappropriate relationship/communications between child and child or between child and adult	Where activities are organised by Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland, a copy of the Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland Child Protection and Welfare Policies and Procedures is made available. Facilitators of activities are asked to sign a Declaration ensuring that they have read and will abide by all contained in Child Protection and Welfare Policies and Procedures document.
Risk of harm in an online teaching situation	Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland have included procedures for online teaching in their Code of Behaviour (Section 2.1) as part of the Cruit Éireann, Harp Ireland Child Protection and Welfare Policies and Procedures.

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.

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 Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland 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 Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland 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 Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland 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 Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland 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 currently Aibhlín McCrann, whose details are given at the end of this document. All procedures are detailed in the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland Child Protection and Welfare Policy and Procedures document, which is available on the Cruit Éireann/Harp Ireland website (www.harpireland.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 August 2022 and will be reviewed in August 2024, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:

Date: 15/08/2022

Aibhlín McCrann, Chair

For queries, please contact:

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