



ARKLOW YOUTHREACH SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT 2021

Arklow Youthreach is an education and training centre offering QQI level 3 and 4 accredited programmes to young people between 15 and 20 years of age. Arklow Youthreach is run by Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB).

In accordance with the requirements of the Children First Act 2015, Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017, the Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and Túsla Guidance on the preparation of Child Safeguarding Statements, Arklow Youthreach and KWETB agreed the Child Safeguarding Statement set out in this document.

- 1 Arklow Youthreach has adopted and will implement fully and without modification the Department's Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 as part of this overall Child Safeguarding Statement
- 2 The Designated Liaison Person (DLP) is Sharon Hughes.
- 3 The Deputy Designated Liaison Person (DDL) is Jacqui Penston.
- 4 Arklow Youthreach and KWETB recognises that child protection and welfare considerations permeate all aspects of centre life and must be reflected in all of the centre's policies, procedures, practices and activities. In its policies, procedures, practices and activities, the centre will adhere to the following principles of best practice in child protection and welfare:

The centre 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;



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- In this centre the ETB 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.
 - All registered teachers employed by the centre are mandated persons under the Children First Act 2015.
 - In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the ETB and Arklow Youthreach have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the centre or participating in centre activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the centre’s procedures for managing those risks is attached as an appendix to these procedures.
 - The various procedures referred to in this Statement can be accessed via the staff OneDrive, the centre’s website, the DES website or will be made available on request by the centre.
- 6 This statement is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Túsla and the Department if requested.
- 7 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.
- 8 This Child Safeguarding Statement was adopted by Kildare and Wicklow ETB on

Signed: Niamh Maguire
Niamh Maguire AEO (KWETB representative)

Date: 12/10/2021

Signed: Sharon Hughes
Sharon Hughes Arklow Youthreach Coordinator

Date: 13/10/2021



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