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## Community Games

### Child Safeguarding Policy for Parents

As an organisation that caters for children young people, aged 6 to 16, **the welfare and protection of young people is paramount to everything that we do.**

The Community Games is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all young people who participate in our activities. All young people within Community Games regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, family status, disability or membership of the Traveller community have the right to be protected, treated with respect, listened to and have their views taken into consideration.

#### Definitions

- Safeguarding refers to the actions we take to ensure **all** children are safe from harm when involved in our Area activities.
- Child protection is a set of activities that are required for **specific** children who are at risk of/or are suffering significant harm.
- Abuse refers to the acts of commission or omission that lead to a child experiencing harm.
- Harm refers to the negative impact or consequences upon the child of those actions.

Please see the full Child Safeguarding Policy document for definitions of child abuse and for procedures and protocols, available at [www.communitygames.ie](http://www.communitygames.ie) or from your Area secretary and/or Children's Officer.

#### Guidelines for Parents

- Community Games encourages the involvement of parents and guardians at all levels; coaching, leadership, administration, support, or in any other capacity that will help us to ensure that our young people can participate in a fun and safe environment.
- Parental consent is required for children and young people to participate in Community Games activities.
- A parental consent form must be signed by the parent/guardian for trips away. A Code of Conduct must also be signed by the parent/ guardian and the participant.
- For certain medical conditions, allergies, etc (please speak to your Area secretary or Children's Officer), a medical form must also be completed. This form is strictly confidential.
- All volunteers are Garda vetted. References from volunteers can also be requested.
- Volunteers are required to attend Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport training, as devised by the Sport Ireland.
- Parents/guardians will be informed immediately of any incident involving their child. Please ensure that your Area secretary and/or Children's Officer has your most up to date contact details.
- As a parent you have a right to any information stored by Community Games about your child. Please speak to your Area secretary or Children's Officer.
- All personal information is confidential and shared on a 'need to know' basis.
- Child safety and welfare is a concern for all. The Community Games and its members have a duty of care to report any concerns of child abuse, allegations or disclosures.

- As a parent/guardian you have a right to be informed of a report being made to the statutory services (Túsla, the Child and Family Agency and/or an Garda Síochána), unless this is not appropriate to the situation.
- If you wish to make a complaint please contact your Area Chairperson, details below, who will provide you with the information on this procedure.
- Please familiarise yourself and your child/children with this policy.

#### **IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS**

##### **Area Children's Officer:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

##### **Area Designated Liaison Person:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

##### **Area Secretary:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

##### **Area Chairperson:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

##### **County Children's Officer:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

##### **National Children's Officer:**

Caitríona Reynolds      00 353 86 7953564      [caitriona@communitygames.ie](mailto:caitriona@communitygames.ie)

To download the full version of the Child Safeguarding Policy and other policies please see [www.communitygames.ie](http://www.communitygames.ie) or Phone: 00 353 90 6433388