



CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

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Cool Planet Experience
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Child Safeguarding Statement

1. NAME OF SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES PROVIDED

Cool Planet Experience

Cool Planet Experience is Ireland's first interactive climate change experience, an immersive journey into the story of our changing climate. The CPE programme is designed to ignite 21st century problem solvers who see themselves being the innovators and change agents of tomorrow. A combination of inquiry based activities and creative technology result in a dynamic learning experience for participants.

- Interactive tour
- Workshop programme
- After schools and weekend events
- Outreach

The management structure is:

Vicky Brown, CEO

Aine O Mahony, Centre Manager

Michelle Maher, Education Manager

2. COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM

- Our Service is committed to safeguarding the children in our care and to providing a safe environment in which they can play, learn and develop.
- Our service believes that the welfare of the children attending our service is paramount. We are committed to child-centred practice in all our work with children.
- We are committed to upholding the rights of every child and young person who attends our service, including the rights to be kept safe and protected from harm, listened to, and heard.
- Our policy and procedures to safeguard children and young people reflect national policy and legislation and are underpinned by Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children

2017, the Tusla Children First - Child Safeguarding Guide 2017, and the Children First Act 2015.

- Our policy declaration applies to all paid staff, volunteers, committee/ board members and students on work placement within our organisation. All committee board members, staff, volunteers and students must sign up to and abide by the policies, procedures and guidance encompassed by this policy declaration and our child safeguarding policy and accompanying procedures.
- We will review our child safeguarding statement and accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures every 2 years or sooner if necessary, due to service issues or changes in legislation or national policy.
- Designated Liaison Person for Child Protection

DLP: Aine O'Mahoney Centre Manager	Deputy: Michelle Maher Education Manager
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3. RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the Children First Act 2015, the Board of Management/Service Provider has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while attending the service or participating in service activities. A written assessment setting out the areas of risk identified and the service procedures for managing those risks is summarised below:

Risk Identified	Policies and/or Procedures in place to manage Risk
Non-compliance with CPE's Child Protection Policy	All staff and volunteers are provided with the Child Protection Policy. A breach of the Child Protection Policy will be reported to the relevant manager. The Child Protection Policy is reviewed every 2 years.
Delay in making referrals to Tusla	All staff and regular volunteers are trained and supported to ensure they can act promptly and not delay in contacting the Mandated Person or Tusla when they deem a referral may be required.
Receipt of complaint of alleged child abuse where a parent, guardian or teacher is the alleged perpetrator.	All staff know the procedures to make a referral to the Mandated Person or directly to Tusla. Internal disciplinary processes are in place where the issue concerns an employee.

Child makes a disclosure to a member of staff	All staff know the procedures to make a referral to the Mandated Person or directly to Tusla.
A suspicion of child abuse is determined by a member of staff.	All staff know the procedures to make a referral to the Mandated Person or directly to Tusla.

4. CHILD SAFEGUARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As required by the Children First Act, 2015, Children First National Guidance for Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and the Guidance for Developing for a Child Safeguarding statement Services 2018 the following safeguarding policies/procedures/measures are in place

- Procedures to maintain a list of mandated persons under the Children First Act, 2015
- A Relevant Person has been appointed
- A Designated Liaison Person and Deputy have been appointed
- Child Protection and Welfare Reporting Procedures
- Confidentiality Policy
- Policy for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse or Neglect Against Employees
- Procedure for Managing Child Protection Records
- Recruitment Policy
- Garda Vetting Policy
- Code of Behaviour for Working with Children
- Induction Policy (which includes procedures to inform new staff about the Child Safeguarding Statement and accompanying safeguarding policies and procedures)
- All staff have completed the Tusla eLearning module - Introduction to Children First and relevant staff have attended Always Children First Child Protection Training.
- Staff have access to regular Supervision and Support in line with the service policy.

- Complaints Policy
- Policy for Managing Accidents and Incidents
- Social Media Management Policy

5. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

- We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. Our service is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children safe from harm while availing of our service.
- This Statement will be reviewed every 2 years or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.
- This statement has been published on the service website and is displayed in the service. It has been provided to all staff, volunteers and any other persons involved with the service. It is readily accessible to parents and guardians on request. A copy of this Statement will be made available to Tusla if requested.

Signed: 

Date: 30/4/2019

Service Provider's name and contact details:

For further information on this Statement, contact Relevant Person:

Aine O'Mahony , CPE, 01-5180197

RISK ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

Person(s) carrying out Risk Assessment:

Date:

Risk Identified	Who is Responsible?	What is Currently in Place to Manage the Risk	What Future Actions are Needed?
Recruitment of staff	Vicky Brown, Aine O'Mahony, Michelle Maher	All recruited staff will be Garda vetted prior to starting in CPE. References will be verified Induction process is in place.	This policy will be reviewed annually.
Staff members attending to children's personal care needs.	All staff	Staff inform other staff in advance that they are attending to child's needs.	New staff members are made aware of this policy and procedure. Reviewed annually.
Students on work placement including TY students	Management	All students must produce college verification, Garda vetting, photo ID and references prior to starting work placement. TY students under 18 must have 2 references and school verification of work experience. No student is permitted to work on their own with children. Students are not permitted to help children with personal care needs.	This policy and procedures will be shared with all students and reviewed yearly.

Parents visiting service	Management/staff	Parents who visit and stay with their child can only attend to their own child's needs. Parents will never be left alone with any other children except their own.	Parents who visit are made aware of this policy and procedure. Reviewed yearly.