



CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

1. Name of Service: Irish Development Education Association (IDEA)

2. Address of Service: 6 Gardiner Row, Dublin 1, D01 Y183

3. Nature of Service & Principles To Safeguard Children from Harm

IDEA is the national network for Development Education in Ireland and the leading voice for the sector. We represent members involved in the practice, promotion and advancement of Development Education in formal, non-formal and informal settings. Together we work to strengthen Development Education in Ireland and to raise awareness of the crucial role of Development Education in achieving an equal, just and sustainable future. Development Education is now often described as Global Citizenship Education, the phrases can and will be used interchangeably.

Although we are not a youth work organisation, we do engage at times with the public and youth organisations and understand that our child safeguarding responsibilities can involve the following type of indirect engagement:

- Young people nominated and supported by an external organisation to represent IDEA at a meeting, event, launch, consultation, forums, serve on a working group etc...

And the possibility of:

- Attendance of young person in the audience at an IDEA public event
- Communication with a young person online - via IDEA social media platforms

And

- Supporting youth organisations in the delivery of our Erasmus+ programme, and other future projects

IDEA is committed to the protection of children and young people with whom we work and advocate for, and to promoting good practice within our organisation.

IDEA is committed to promoting the rights of the child including the participation of children and young people in matters that affect them.

IDEA is committed to adhering to Children First National Guidance 2017 and the Children First Act 2015. The best interests and the welfare of the child is the paramount consideration underpinning all IDEA interactions and decisions.

4. Risk Assessment

IDEA has carried out a robust and comprehensive assessment of any potential risk of harm (as defined in Children First Act 2015) to a child while availing of our services and the likelihood of

these occurring, the control measures in place and actions required. This detailed risk assessment is available on request and has been summarised below.

Risk Assessment

	Risk identified	L/M/H risk	Procedure in place to manage identified risk
1	Online contact via email/social media etc	M	<p>For all risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding policies include a Code of Behaviour and reporting procedure, and staff/volunteers sign and commit to these; Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and CP officer in place; Ensure safe recruitment practices and that relevant staff/volunteers are Garda vetted; Ensure all staff receive relevant training; <p>For events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear registration process for our events including consent forms for under-18s; If children attend, they should be accompanied by an adult. If not, the CP officer organises for contact point/chaperones to welcome and liaise with them Inter-agency events include safeguarding in planning and communication of relevant internal policies and procedures; Ensure all external consultants/3rd parties are briefed on our safeguarding policies and sign/commit to these; <p>Online:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDEA staff/volunteers only communicate with public via official IDEA email, phone, and social media profiles; our social media has followers/likes and no access to personal information of same.
2	When invited to contribute to IDEA events/work (speakers, consultations, work placements etc)	M	
3	When attending IDEA public events (i.e we may not know who is a child)	M	
4	During outreach to members/external events	M	

5. Procedures

IDEA's 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, 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 service

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our service.
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children.
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla.
- Procedure for maintaining a list of mandated persons in IDEA under the Children First Act 2015.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request

6. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. IDEA 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.

7. Date for Review

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in 2027 or sooner if there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

8. Relevant Person



Signed:

(Ruairi McKiernan, CEO)

20/09/2025

Contact Phone Number: +353 (0)1 878 8480

Relevant Person in respect of the Child Safeguarding Statement