

# Child Safeguarding Statement

**1. Name of service being provided:** The New Theatre

**2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm:** The New Theatre is a 68-seat theatre housed in Dublin's old Temple bar area supporting new writing and providing a theatre experience for a broad range of audiences as well as occasionally children as part of families, school and local groups.

The New Theatre is committed to providing services to and for children and ensuring that all children who use our services are unconditionally respected and kept safe from harm.

Relevant staff will be Garda vetted and all child protection or welfare concerns will be reported to Tusla/ Gardai in a timely manner.

## 3. Risk Assessment

We have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services including the area of online safety when accessing the internet. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

	Risk identified	Procedure in place to manage risk identified
1	Non-compliance with or lack of awareness of The New Theatre's Child Protection Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All staff and incoming companies are provided with a copy of the Policy and must adhere to its policies</li><li>• All staff are trained by the Designated Liaison Person every two years</li><li>• All staff must sign a Declaration Form to state they have read and understood the Child Protection Policy</li></ul>
2	Child makes a disclosure to a member of staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All staff know the procedures to make a referral to the Mandated Person or directly to Tusla, as outlined in the Child Protection Policy</li></ul>
3	A suspicion of child abuse is determined by a member of staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All staff know the procedures to make a referral to the Mandated Person or directly to Tusla, as outlined in the Child Protection Policy</li><li>• Bullying and Harrassment Policy</li></ul>

4	Risk of harm due to bullying of a young person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure risk assessment has been carried out in accordance with The New Theatre’s Health and Safety Policy.</li> </ul>
5	Receipt of complaint of alleged child abuse where a parent, guardian or teacher is the alleged perpetrator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any companies using The New Theatre’s premises shall:</li> </ul>
6	<p>The Following risks may arise due to the use of external stage schools/companies/arts groups/schools/theatre companies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk to child/young person in backstage/dressing room/working venue</li> <li>• Risk of harm due to inadequate supervision of young people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be aware of Adult / Young Adult ratios in the Child Protection Policy and number of persons permitted backstage.</li> <li>- Be responsible for the review and implementation of their own Child Protection Policy and supporting documents and provide The New Theatre with a copy of same.</li> <li>- Any concerns relating to these services shall be raised immediately with Designated Person.</li> </ul>

#### 4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, 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 service:

- The New Theatre Child Protection Policy;
- 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 the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are mandated persons;
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

## 5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an on-going 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 will be reviewed in April 2024, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:  (Provider)

**Provider's name and contact details:** Leanne Willars, The New Theatre, 43 East Essex Street, Dublin 2  
01 6703361 / [leanne.thenewtheatre@gmail.com](mailto:leanne.thenewtheatre@gmail.com)

**For queries, please contact** Leanne Willars, Designated Liaison Person for Child Protection at The New Theatre, 01 6703361 / [leanne.thenewtheatre@gmail.com](mailto:leanne.thenewtheatre@gmail.com)  
(Relevant Person under the Children First Act 2015)