

Banc Ceannais na hÉireann Central Bank of Ireland

Eurosystem

Child Safeguarding Statement

Introduction

The Central Bank of Ireland ("the Central Bank") is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all children with whom we engage in a limited capacity as part of Central Bank business. The Child Safeguarding Statement reflects the Central Bank's compliance with the Children First Act of 2015 and is further contained, as an appendix, within the Central Bank's Child Protection Policy.

Purpose

The Child Safeguarding Statement is a written statement that specifies the service being provided and the principles and procedures to be observed to ensure, as far as is practicable, that a child availing of the service in the Central Bank is safe from harm. The statement includes a written assessment of the risks and the procedures that are in place to address specific issues identified in the Act.¹

The Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed every two years and more frequently in response to changes in legislation or national guidance. It is displayed on Plaza and publically on the external site. It can be made available to all parents and guardians, Tusla, and members of the public upon request.

¹ Section 11(3) of the Act sets down the requirement that the Bank includes a written assessment of the risks of any potential for harm to a child while availing of the relevant service and specify the procedures that are in place to deal with issues as specified in Section 11(3) (a) to (g) in the Act.

Child Safeguarding Statement

1. Name of the service being provided: Work or activity, which consists of the provision of educational, cultural, recreational, & social activities to children. The provision of educational activities to children include second level work experience and school visits. Further activities include, but are not limited to, sports & social activities like the Children's Christmas Party or Wellness activities like the Family visit day.

2. Nature of the service and principles to safeguard children from harm: The mission of the Central Bank is "Safeguarding Stability, Protecting Consumers". Central to delivering this mission is working to safeguard price and financial stability (the former in the context of the Eurosystem) and to undertake assertive risk-based supervision underpinned by a credible threat of enforcement.

In respect of safeguarding children from harm, the Central Bank has appointed relevant persons to be the first point of contact in respect of both communicating the safeguarding statement and acting as the designated liaison. As the designated liaison, they are responsible for ensuring that the standard reporting procedure is followed should there exists reasonable grounds for concern regarding allegations or suspicions of abuse.

3. Risk assessment

HR Advisory has carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to occur to a child while availing of our services. 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 | No parental consent for child to be onsite for second level work placements. | Purpose of engagement form signed before placement. |
| 2 | Designated liaisons are not appropriately assigned. | Designated Liaisons are Garda vetted. |

| 3 | Designated liaisons may not recognise abuse | Designated liaisons have completed Tulsa's e- |
|---|---|--|
| | or may not report a concern. | learning programme on the Children First Act. |
| | | |
| 4 | Child safety is not understood by staff. | All staff are Garda vetted as part of induction |
| | | process. The Bank's Child Protection Policy is |
| | | available on Plaza. |
| | | |
| 5 | Children may be alone while in the Central | Children will be supervised at all times. |
| | Bank. | |
| | | |
| 6 | Children may not have the means to report | Children will have access to phones/computers and |
| | abuse. | a designated contact for the duration of their |
| | | placement. |
| | | |
| 7 | During CSR activities, children may be left | CSR activities never occur on a one-to-one basis |
| | alone with Staff. | with a child and Staff are Garda vetted (by the host |
| | | organisation) in advance of participation. Staff are |
| | | further guided by host organizations' child |
| | | safeguarding statement. |
| | | |

4. Procedures

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the *Children First: National Guidance*, and Tusla's *Child Safeguarding:* A *Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice*. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the Central Bank has additional procedures to support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our educational services. These procedures may be found within the Central Bank's 'Child Protection Policy', which is accessible on Plaza and on our external website. The relevant procedures are listed below and the appropriate section of the Child Protection Policy outlining the procedure is also identified:

Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against Central Bank staff by a child availing of our educational services (see Section 6 of the Child Protection Policy).

- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of staff to work with children (see Section 7 of the Child Protection Policy).
- Procedure for provision of and access to child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm (see Section 4.4 of the Child Protection Policy).
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla (see Section 6 of the Child Protection Policy).
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person (see Section 4.4 of the Child Protection Policy).

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. The Central Bank 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 services within our organisation.

This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed in January 2020 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

For queries, please contact Katie Dunne from Resourcing in respect of second level work placements & Sinéad McKenna from Outreach & Engagement in respect of school visits. For Sports & Social activities involving children, please contact Jackie Pearson. In respect of Wellness activities, e.g. the Family visit day, please contact Kevin Owens from HR Advisory & Wellness. These are the Relevant Persons under the Children First Act 2015.

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