

The Model

Child Safeguarding Statement

The Model is committed to the cultural and creative development of all children in a safe environment. Children have a right to be heard, listened to and taken seriously. Where there are concerns about a child's welfare, there are opportunities provided for their views to be heard. Our policy **Keeping Arts Safe** is revised on an annual basis and is designed to ensure the safety of all children. Staff, facilitators and artists who engage in work with The Model must be familiar with and adhere to this policy.

The Model is committed to:

1. Promoting the general welfare, health, development and safety of children; young people and vulnerable adults;
2. Adopting and consistently applying a safe and clearly defined method of recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers;
3. Developing guidance and procedures for staff and volunteers who may have reasonable grounds for concern about the safety and welfare of children involved with the organisation;
4. Identifying a designated liaison person to act as a liaison with outside agencies and a resource person to any staff member or volunteer who has child protection and welfare concerns. The designated liaison person is

responsible for reporting allegations or concerns of child abuse to the HSE Children and Family Services or to An Garda Síochána;

5. Raising awareness within the organisation about potential risks to children's safety and welfare;

6. Developing effective procedures for responding to accidents and complaints;

7. Ensuring that clear procedures in relation to record-keeping of child protection and welfare concerns are in place and are operating effectively; as well as taking appropriate account of the need to ensure that such records are kept securely. Cooperate with the HSE Children and Family Services on the sharing of records where a child welfare or protection issue arises.

This statement is reviewed annually by Marie-Louise Blaney, the designated child protection liaison person at The Model. The review is to ensure that the policy is compliant, relevant and up to date with current legislation. Should you wish to receive further information in relation to this statement or The Model policy **Keeping Arts Safe**, contact marielouiseblaney@themodel.ie.

This statement was reviewed on 18th April, 2024