



# Child Safeguarding Statement

Version: 4 February, 2026

## Name and Details of the Service Provider

The Lutheran Church in Ireland

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## Statement

This Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First National Guidance and Tusla Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. The Lutheran Church in Ireland acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

## Principles to safeguard children from harm

We recognise that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances and that the safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. The clergy, volunteers and staff are committed to ensuring that all children have a positive and enjoyable experience in a safe and child centred environment and are protected from harm whilst participating in activities. Children have a right to be heard, listened to and taken seriously. parents/carers have the right to be consulted and involved in matters concerning their children. We require parental/guardian consent for the involvement of children in Church activities.

## Nature of service

The Lutheran Church in Ireland provides the following activities and services to children under 18 years of age:

- Toddler Group
- Children's Arts Group
- Children's Sunday Service
- Summer Camp
- Activity Days for Children
- Confirmation Class

- Youth Group

### Risk Assessment

The Lutheran Church in Ireland has conducted a written risk assessment of any potential for harm to a child through their involvement in each church activity. The written risk assessment indicates the areas of potential harm, the likelihood of harm occurring, and lists the required policy, guidance, process and practice required to manage risks.

Risks identified	Policies/Procedures in place
Risk of harm (as defined in the Children First Act 2015) of a child by a member of the clergy/staff/volunteer/peer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safe selection procedures, including Garda Vetting.</li> <li>• Children First Training.</li> <li>• Procedure for recognising, recording and reporting child safeguarding concerns.</li> <li>• Procedure for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff &amp; volunteers.</li> </ul>
Risk of harm to a child or young person from another child or young person.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-Bullying Guidelines / Child Protection Policy</li> <li>• Personnel/volunteers must ensure adequate supervision and ratios in place.</li> <li>• Codes of Behaviour for Children involved in church activities.</li> <li>• Procedure for recognising, recording and reporting child safeguarding concerns.</li> </ul>
Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of a child from unauthorised photography/recording	The Lutheran Church in Ireland addresses these risks in the Child Protection Policy
Risk of harm (as defined in the CFA 2015) of a child from online abuse through social media or internet access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Codes of Behaviour for Children involved in church activities.</li> <li>• The Lutheran Church in Ireland addresses these risks in the Child Protection Policy</li> </ul>
Risk of harm, or reasonable grounds for concern about child abuse, not being recognised or reported. (as defined in the CFA 2015)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procedure for recognising, recording and reporting child safeguarding concerns (incl. reporting by mandated persons).</li> <li>• Children First Training.</li> </ul>

### Procedures

In addition to the risk assessments and the above policies and procedures, the following procedures are in place:

- Procedures for the safe recruitment of volunteers or employees to work with children in our services.
- Procedures for provision of and access to child protection training, including the identification and reporting of harm.

- Procedures for reporting child protection and welfare concerns to Tusla and An Garda Síochána.
- Procedures for maintaining a list of persons who are mandated persons.
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person for this child safeguarding statement.
- Procedures for dealing with allegations made against clergy/staff/volunteer/peer.

### **Implementation**

The Lutheran Church in Ireland recognises that implementation is an on-going process and is committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the procedures that support its intention to keep children safe from harm and the risk of harm. The Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed during the term of office of the church council, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed by the provider of the relevant service:

Dr Markus Grimmeisen  
*Chairman of the Church Council*

4 February, 2026

### **Relevant Person**

For any queries relating to this statement please contact the relevant person who is:

Franziska Fabich  
Designated Liason Person [safeguarding@lutheran-ireland.org](mailto:safeguarding@lutheran-ireland.org)