



1. Introduction

Maynooth University is a public Higher Education institution, offering programmes at undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral level to students who are generally adults (though a small proportion are under 18 years at the time of initial registration). The University also conducts research and facilitates events of a marketing, sporting, cultural and educational nature on the campus which may involve students, staff and members of the wider community (both adult and children).

The safety, welfare and development of children and young people is a core objective and key priority of the University. Every member of staff has a responsibility and duty of care to ensure that every child/young person attending the University is safe and protected from harm. Maynooth University policies and procedures have been developed to promote safe environments for children, to mitigate the potential for risk to arise and to manage it safely where it does. The Policies and Procedures outlined in this Child Safeguarding Statement apply to all staff, students, volunteers, contractors and any person performing any role or function in or on behalf of Maynooth University. The Child Safeguarding Statement is informed by the following Risk Assessment.

2. Risk Assessment

<i>Risk identified</i>		<i>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</i>
1	Operation of the Crèche	A comprehensive suite of Policies and Procedures is in place, including Risk Assessment and Procedures to manage such risks
2	Operation of the Health Centre	Health Centre Policy and Procedures Handbook
3	Operation of the Counselling Service	Counselling Service Policy and Procedures Handbook
4	Provision of term-time on-campus accommodation for registered students	Policies and Procedures for the operation and management of on-campus student accommodation, where some students are under 18 years
5	Registered students who are under 18 years and are involved in the activities of MU Clubs and Societies	Restriction on travel abroad (managed through Club and Societies)
6	Schools Liaison activities (on and off-campus)	Child Protection Procedures
7	Research involving Children	Research Ethics Policy and Procedures
8	Educational events for under-18s (e.g. music, sport, science, computing)	Child Protection Procedures
9	Conferring, Prize and Award Ceremonies	Child Protection Procedures
10	Work Placement on campus for under-18s	Child Protection Procedures
11	Fieldwork/External Placements (which are integral to the 3 rd level programme) involving under-18s	Child Protection Procedures
12	Recording/Filming events, student projects	Media Studies Department Ethics Protocol Screen Producers Ireland Child Protection and Welfare Policy 2013 Production Risk Assessment procedures
13	On-campus facilities rental to external providers of programmes for children	Child Protection Procedures
14	Administering First Aid to under-age casualty	Child Protection Procedures

3. Procedures

This 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 (2017)” and Tusla’s “Guidance on Developing a Child Safeguarding Statement”. 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 services:

- Child Protection Policy
- Child Protection Procedures
- Maynooth University Staff Recruitment policies and procedures
- Maynooth University Code of Conduct for Employees
- Maynooth University Statement of Policy on Equality
- Maynooth University Policy for Vetting Students
- Maynooth University Policy Statement on Applicants with Criminal Convictions
- Policy and Procedure for the Protection of staff against Workplace Bullying, Harassment and Sexual Harassment
- Maynooth University Research Ethics Policy
- General Rules of the University for Students
- Statutes of the University

All documents listed are available at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies>.

4. Implementation

The University recognises that implementation is an ongoing process and 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 services. This Child Safeguarding Statement will be reviewed periodically, or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the Statement refers.

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