

1. Name of service being provided:
Galway Rural Development Company CLG

2. Nature of service and principles to safeguard children from harm
Galway Rural Development (GRD) was established in 1994 to enhance the lives of those living in rural communities through a variety of social and community schemes. Through this company, staff have contact with members of the public including children and young people. Please note that staff includes full and part-time workers, participants on schemes and volunteers. The Board of Directors of GRD is responsible for ensuring that the company maintains an effective Child Protection Policy and accompanying procedures.

GRD values children and young people and seeks to ensure that any activities involving children are safe, enjoyable and comfortable. GRD strives to develop children and young people's self-esteem, encourage each child and young person to contribute to and participate in activities and to reward their efforts as well as their achievements. GRD acknowledges that an atmosphere built on good relationships, mutual respect and support is less favourable to the development of bullying and other abusive behaviours. Similarly, when children and young people have trusting relationships with staff, they are more likely to let them know about things that are making them unhappy.

We in GRD are committed to a practice which protects children and young people from harm. GRD acknowledges that the rights of children and young people need to be protected, that children need to be treated with respect, listened to and have their own views taken into consideration.

Management and staff in this service recognise that the welfare of children and young people is paramount and our service will endeavour to safeguard children and young people by having a Child Protection Policy which comprises of the following:

1. A reporting procedure to respond to concerns around children and young people's welfare and safety
2. A code of behaviour for staff
3. A confidentiality statement
4. A procedure to respond to complaints
5. A safe recruitment procedure

3. Risk assessment

GRD have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child or young person 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	Procedures in place to manage risk identified
Potential complaint regarding GRD staff.	All staff in contact with children and young people will be Garda vetted.
Noncompliance with GRD child protection policy.	All staff in contact with children and young people will have participated in child protection training.
Risk to children & young people engaging with GRD services.	All members of staff will meet children and young people under the age of eighteen years old with a parent or guardian or in the presence of another adult.
Risk to children & young people engaging with GRD services.	Staff will adhere to the Child Protection Policy
Child/Young person will make a disclosure to a	Staff will report any concerns or disclosures in accordance with the Child Protection Policy.

member of GRD staff	
Receipt of complaint regarding GRD staff.	GRD staff will adhere to the Child Protection Policy.

4. Procedures

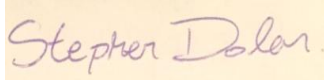
Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the Children First Act 2015, the Children First: National Guidance, and Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice. In addition to the procedures listed in our risk assessment, the following procedures support our intention to safeguard children and young people while they are availing of our service:

- Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against staff of a child or young person availing of our service
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of staff to work with children and young people
- 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

5. Implementation

We recognise that implementation is an ongoing 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 as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signed:
(Provider)



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For queries, please contact Steve Dolan under the Children First Act 2015.