

# **Phillida Eves' Child Safeguarding Statement**

## **NAME OF SERVICE**

Phillida Eves

## **NATURE OF SERVICE PROVIDED**

Phillida Eves is an artist and qualified teacher with extensive experience in teaching neurotypical and neurodiverse children. Phillida Eves aims to make theatre more inclusive and to have the child and their needs at the heart of the creative process. We create and facilitate sensory experiences, workshops and sensory musical theatrical performances. These performances are immersive, interactive safe spaces that can be enjoyed by children who are very young and those who are labelled as having complex needs including those with profound and multiple disabilities, with an autistic spectrum condition, and those who are deaf/blind and multi-sensory impaired.

We create opportunities for children and young people along with their teachers, peers and families, to discover, create and love art. We work in schools, libraries, arts and health centres and in public spaces, to create safe spaces for children and young people to engage in workshops, sensory experiences and theatrical performances. We collaborate with other artists and educators and the children are an integral part of the creating process. We also create and facilitate specific professional development workshops for educators and artists. We work in Ireland and abroad.

Phillida Eves is committed to a child-centred approach in her work with children and young people. Phillida Eves provides services to and for children. It is central to the philosophy of Phillida Eves that children are unconditionally respected and kept safe from harm while using our services.

## **PRINCIPLES TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM**

Below are Phillida Eves' principles and procedures which should be observed to ensure, as far as possible, that a child is safe from harm while availing of our services.

1. Phillida Eves and regular artists/facilitators/volunteers are Garda vetted.
2. Phillida Eves and regular artists/facilitators/volunteers have undertaken Tusla online Child Protection Training – Children First E-Learning.
3. All child protection or welfare concerns will be reported to Tusla/Gardaí in a timely manner.
4. Children are always accompanied by a parent/guardian, teacher or the artist/facilitator/volunteers while attending workshops or performances.
5. A child in need of personal support because of illness, physical needs or any form of distress, shall be referred in the first place to their parent/guardian or teacher. In the absence of a guardian, the artist/facilitator/volunteer who is working with or supervising that activity will provide such support. A

parent/guardian or teacher should inform the artist if there are any specific needs required during a child's participation at an event.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

Under the Children First Act 2015, we have carried out an assessment of any potential for harm to a child while availing of our services. It should be noted that risk in this context is the risk of harm through abuse and not general health and safety risk. Below is a list of the areas of risk identified and the list of procedures for managing these risks.

<b>Risk identified</b>	<b>Procedure in place to manage risk identified</b>
1. Non- Compliance with Phillida Eves' Child Protection Policy	All artists and volunteers are provided with the Child Protection Policy. Any breach of the Child Protection Policy will be reported to the Designated Liaison Person (DLP). The Child Protection Policy is reviewed every 12 months.
2. Delay in making referrals to Tusla	All artists/facilitators/volunteers are trained and supported to ensure they can act promptly and not delay in contacting the Mandated Person or Tusla when they deem a referral may be required.
3. Receipt of complaints of alleged child abuse where an artist is the alleged perpetrator	All artist/facilitators/volunteers know the procedures to make a referral to the DLP or directly to Tusla. Internal Disciplinary processes are in place where the issue concerns an employee.
4. Receipt of complaint of alleged child abuse where a parent, guardian or teacher is the alleged perpetrator	All artist/facilitators/volunteers know the procedures to make a referral to the DLP or directly to Tusla. The school will be notified.
5. Child makes a disclosure to a member of staff	All artists/facilitators/volunteers know the procedures to make a referral to the DLP or directly to Tusla.
6. A suspicion of child abuse is determined by the artist	All artist/facilitators/volunteers know the procedures to make a referral to the DLP or directly to Tusla.

## PROCEDURES

Phillida Eves' Child Safeguarding Statement has been developed in line with requirements under the *Children First Act 2015*, and 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 while they are availing of our services:

1. Procedure for the management of allegations of abuse or misconduct against workers/volunteers of a child availing of our services.
2. Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of artists and volunteers to work with children.
3. Procedure for provision of, and access to, child safeguarding training and information, including the identification of the occurrence of harm.
4. Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to Tusla or the Gardaí as appropriate.
5. Procedure for maintaining a list of the persons (if any) in the relevant service who are 'Mandated Persons' as defined under the Children First Act 2015.

All procedures listed are available upon request.

## IMPLEMENTATION

Phillida Eves recognises 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 Statement will be reviewed on 1 February 2024 or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.

Signatories of this statement: Phillida Eves

Director of Phillida Eves

## NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS

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**For queries in relation to this Child Safeguarding Statement please contact Designated Liaison Person, Phillida Eves at the address or phone number above or email [phillidaeves@gmail.com](mailto:phillidaeves@gmail.com).** If this person is not contactable please contact the Deputy Designated Liaison Person, Elaine Donovan, at 086 604 2308 or by email [elaine.donovan@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.donovan@gmail.com).